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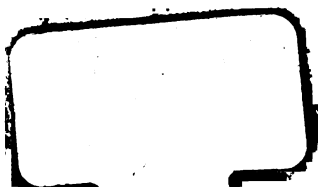
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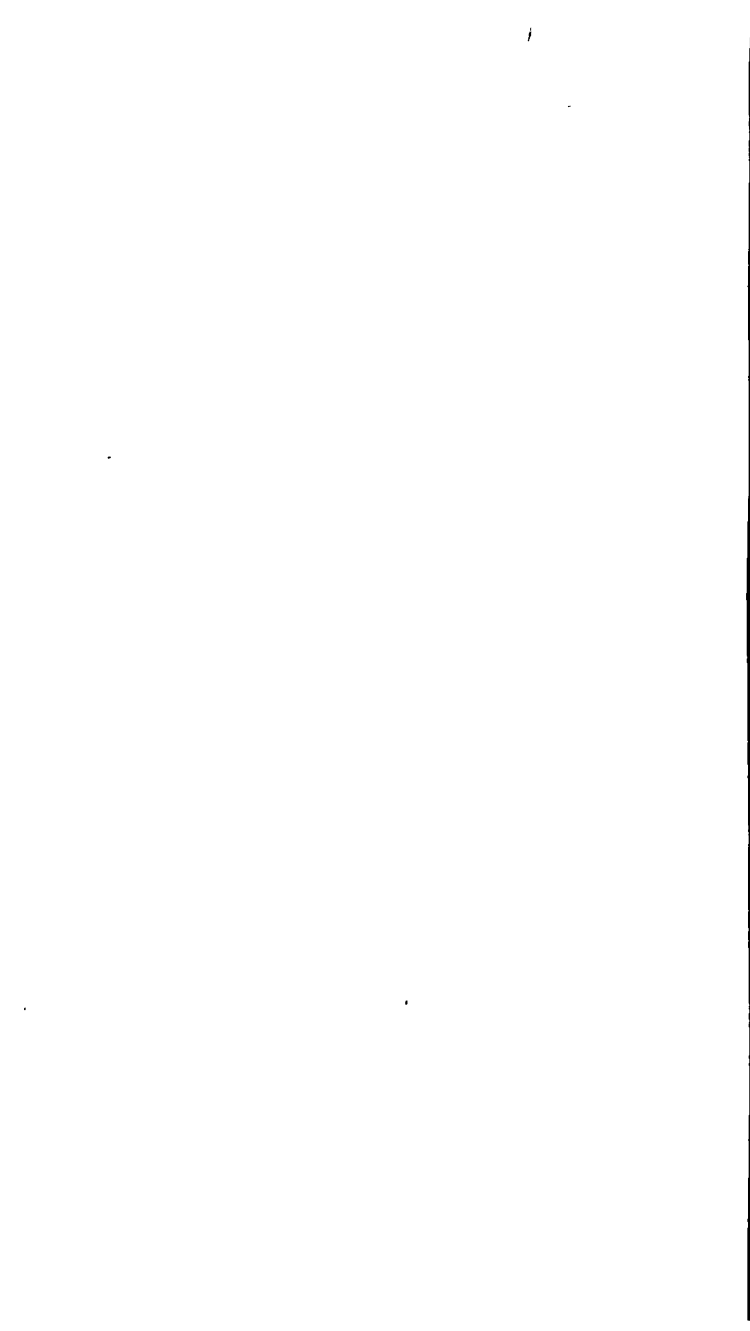
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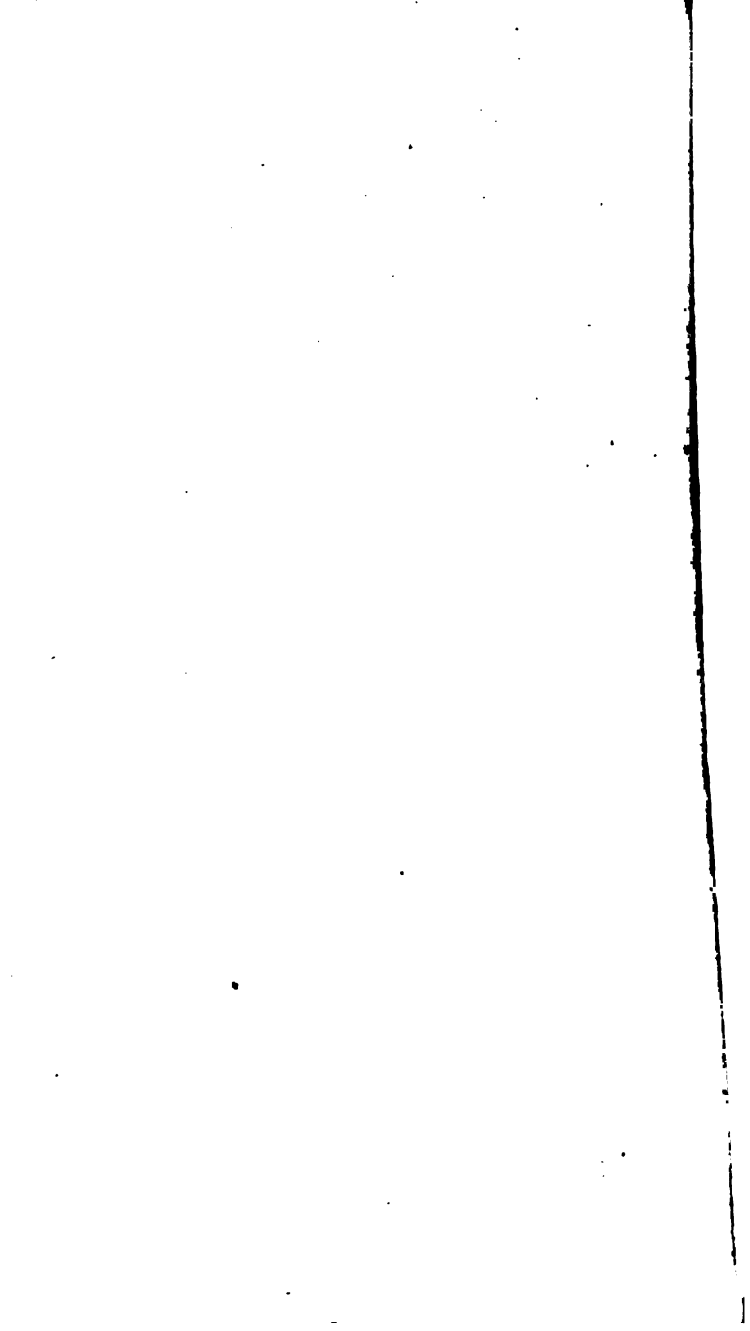
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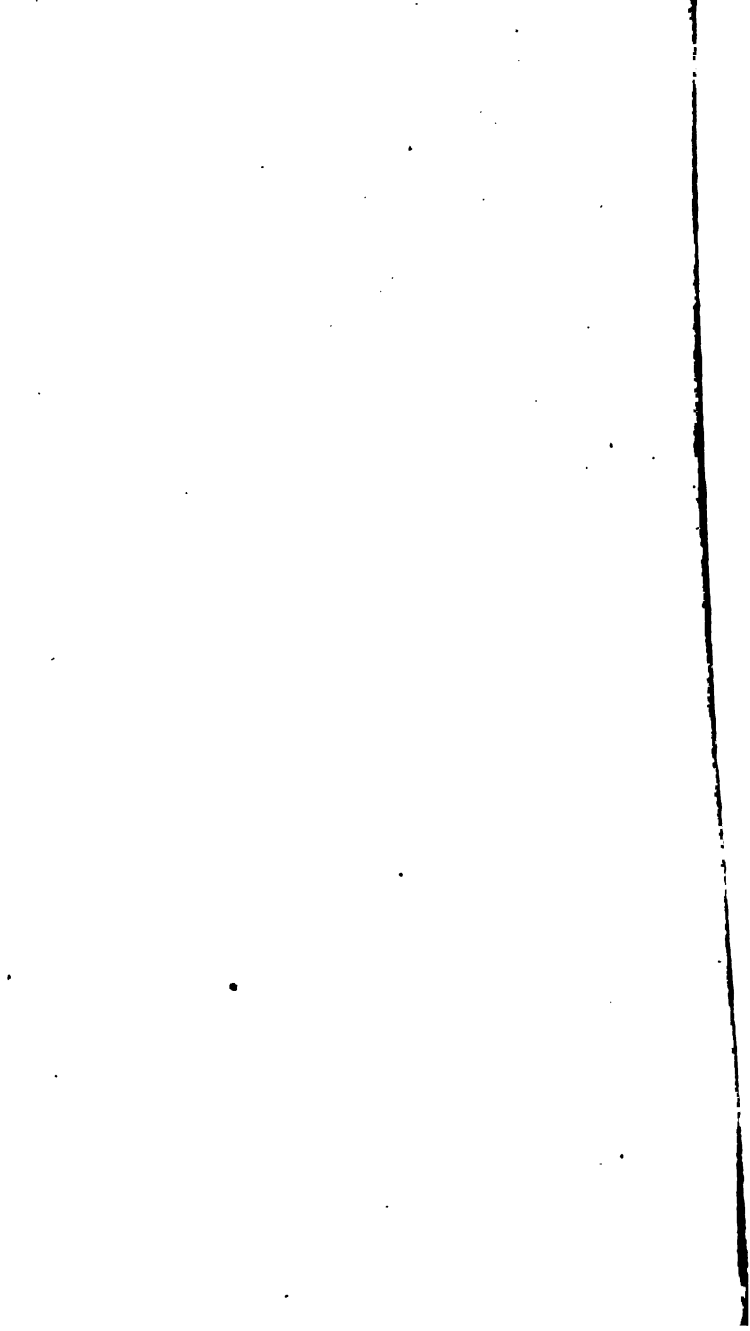
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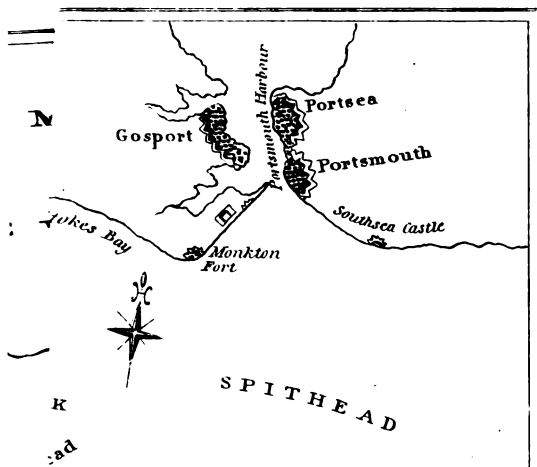
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111



THE
ISLE OF WIGHT TOURIST,

AND
COMPANION AT COWES.

BY
PHILO VECTIS.

LC

———Vectis there
That slopes its green sward to the lambent wave,
And shews through softest haze its woods and domes,
With grey St. Catherine's creeping to the sky,
Seems like a modest fair, who charms the more
Concealing half her beauties.

Bowles.

COWES :

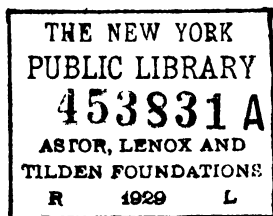
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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE publisher has induced a Gentleman of the neighbourhood to offer a guide to the Isle of Wight, with a more particular adaptation to the visitants at Cowes,—a kind of publication for which repeated inquiries have been made. In offering this convenience, this town is indeed somewhat behind its neighbours, but on the whole the time of publication may not be unsuitable:—a Directory to Cowes may be more acceptable now that the increase of lodging-houses has lessened the terms of accommodation, and competition is provoking a cheaper supply of the necessaries of life.

As it becomes every man to acknowledge the errors of which he is conscious, the writer is free to confess that the *present* state of things is not fairly represented on pages 15 and 16. The statement was not incorrect when it was written, but while the tourist has been printing, the article referred to has all at once become cheap and plentiful. For the rest, the book (as most books do) must stand or fall upon its own merits. One recommendation it may, however, have, as a *remembrancer* of the Island,—it is a genuine Isle of Wight production, written, printed, bound, and published, immediately on the spot.

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CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLAND.

AN interesting writer, in Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, describes the Isle of Wight as "the miniature abstract of all that is grand and lovely in England." It would, probably, be difficult, in a short sentence, to afford a more accurate representation of the peculiarities of the Island. It offers, indeed, only an abstract,—a miniature abstract,—but it gives a diminished sketch of "all that is grand and lovely in England!" Its capital, boroughs, sea-ports, watering places, and villages; its mountains, vales, plains, slopes, and cliffs; its seas, bays, lakes, rivers, streams and waterfalls; its caverns, chasms, forests, and bournes, are *all* on a comparatively diminutive scale; but it presents an entire

character of *variety* which scarcely leaves a grand or lovely object of the parent Isle without a representative in the contracted circumference of about sixty miles.

The *name* of this Island has afforded great scope for etymological conjectures. The following are mentioned by Sir Richard Worsley, as the most likely to be correct. "Some derive the term *Wight* from the British word *Guith*, a *breach* or *division*, alluding to the supposed separation of this Island from the main land."—"Others choose to derive it from its Latin appellation of *Vectis*, a word signifying a *bar* or *bolt*, perhaps from the steep and projecting rocks with which the coasts of this Island are in many places barred and bolted; from this the transition is easy to *Wect*, *With*, or *Wict*, as it is written in the oldest records, particularly Doomesday Book, and Camden's Saxon Chronicles."

There have been grave discussions on the question "was Vectis always separated from the main land?" On the authority of Diodorus Siculus, who lived 45 years before the Christian era, and mentions a *peninsula*, which he calls Vectis, as the mart to which the Cornish merchants used to bring their tin in carts, it has been rather generally concluded that there was a time when neither sailing boats nor steam packets were essential to a visit to this lovely spot. The distance of the Island from Cornwall, has, however, been supposed to render it more probable that

the Ictis or Vectis of Diodorus must have been on the Cornish coasts, and this supposition is in some measure confirmed by the fact that *Ik* is a common Cornish word for a *cove, creek, or port of traffic*. Tradition favors the idea that a causey once existed between *Gurnard Bay*, (formerly the site of a considerable town,) and the opposite coast of *Leap*, on the borders of the New Forest, but as the tides from the east and west meet near the supposed causey, the tradition may have been *occasioned*, as well as supported, by the gravelly bank which the confluence of the waters has deposited. Seamen state that there is a continuance of the rocks, under water, from the needles, to the opposite cliffs of Swanage, and argue from this circumstance the original junction of the two coasts; but it is generally known that the water is now deeper, and the tides more rapid here than in any part of the neighbouring Solent sea. Where "doctors disagree" the editor will not attempt to "decide"; but he may with probable safety remark that, at all events, the first British discoverers of Vectis, neither required the aid of Galileo's telescopes, nor the persevering courage of Columbus, in order to the perfection of their geographical speculations. On a still morning they might hear the crowing of chanticleer* on the opposite coasts,—moderately good

* This can still be done at particular seasons. The morning stroller on the Debourne walk, may occasionally hear the peasants in the New Forest calling the poultry and pigs, though the distance cannot be less than four miles across.

eyes would distinguish the shores,—a twelve-foot boat would prove a safe conveyance in calm weather,—and, if only a tithe of the present dispositions of the inhabitants had then an existence, *Visitors* would be welcome.

The garden of England, (for so the Isle of Wight has been rather commonly called,) is fenced by a liquid boundary, with, here and there, a wooden wall. This, rather effectually, serves to keep from the enclosure, the timid and the dishonest; for, while the fine choice of conveyances can scarcely allay the anxieties of the former, the latter are generally aware that “a thief in the Island is a thief in a pound,” and, consequently, robberies are less frequent here than in most parts of England. The watery fence is kept in continual repair, without expence; and in the true taste of Englishmen, before the present happy peace, it is considerably extended, and fringed with rocks in that quarter from which *Frenchmen* were likely to approach. The distance between the south of the Island and Cape La Hogue, in France, is about eighteen leagues, and the channel therefore presents all the expanded appearance of an open sea; while the Solent, which separates the northern and western boundaries from the Hampshire coasts, scarcely exceeds six miles across, in the most extended parts, and is much narrower at particular places. From the Needles point to Hurst Castle is, indeed, scarcely three-fourths of a mile.

The figure of the Island has been variously represented. An "irregular lozenge," a "jump fish," a "bird with out-stretched wings," and a "kidney bean," have been employed, by different writers, to give the idea of its boundaries. As these representations are almost equally appropriate, the reader, has only to imagine a visit to the confectioner's, the fishmonger's, the poulterer's, or the gardener's, in order to aid the recollection of the shape of the Island :

"If shape it may be call'd which shape hath none."

In measurement, east and west, from Bembridge point to the Needles rocks is about twenty-four miles ; from Egypt, the most northerly point, to Puckaster, south of Niton, is about fourteen miles. The whole circumference is calculated to contain upwards of 100,000 acres.

The general temperature of the air here, is such as might be expected from one of the most southerly divisions of the British Isles. The south-western winds prevail, as may be seen by the general inclination of the trees in a contrary direction ; but, the beautiful profusion of wild flowers, the luxuriance of the shrubs "to the very water's edge," and the very frequent occurrence of old age among the human inhabitants, sufficiently proclaim the general salubrity of the climate they inhabit. A southern Island, with so much freedom from marsh land, can hardly be considered very unhealthy in any of its de-

partments, but as some of its divisions must vary in aspect, and proximity to the sea, the northern or the southern sides may be more suited to particular cases, while the mild and beautiful interior may again be more agreeable to others.

The Isle of Wight is divided into two hundreds, termed East Medina, and West Medina; and these are marked by the course of the river from whence they have been named. The Medina rises at the foot of St. Catherine's, and with few and small deviations runs directly north, through Newport to the Solent, or Solvent Sea, which it reaches by the channel that separates East and West Cowes. East Medina contains fourteen parishes, and West Medina sixteen. These are all in the diocese of Winchester and in the county of Southampton: they are named as follows:

East Medina.

Brading,
St. Helens,
Yaverland,
Shanklin,
Bonchurch,
Newchurch,
St. Lawrence,
Whitwell,
Niton,
Godshill,
Arreton,
Binstead,
Wootton,
Whippingham.

West Medina.

Northwood,
Newport,
St. Nicholas,
Carisbrooke,
Gatcombe,
Kingstone,
Chale,
Shorwell,
Brixton,
Mottiston,
Calbourne,
Shalfleet,
Brooke,
Thorley,
Yarmouth,
Freshwater.

In its soil, the Island varies as much as in almost any other respect, and comprises as good and as bad land as can often be met with. "In some places," as Mr. Vancouver remarks, "the variety may be more aptly referred to the treatment it has undergone than to any specific difference in its native quality;" but *the whole* has been characterized by Sir Richard Worsley as "affording a greater diversity than is to be found in any other part of Great Britain of the same extent." The principal varieties are a rough strong clay of argillaceous and calcareous marl; a strong gravelly loam, upon a brown and yellow clay, which is generally found to terminate in a deep bed of grey and blueish argillaceous marl; a strong, brown, tough clay, without stones, and lying on a purple, red, blue, and yellow clay; a pure white shell marl in veins of various thickness; and oak-tree, or sour wood-land clay, with some inter-sections of sand and gravelly veins.

Chalk, an inferior coal, fuller's and brick earths, tobacco pipe clay, stone of different qualities, talc, alum, copperas stones, red and yellow ochres, and various kinds of sand, are found in different parts of the Island. For this latter article, the parish of Freshwater has long been famous, having afforded a very superior supply for the glass and porcelain manufactories of London, Bristol, and Worcester. The Alum Bay sands are now becoming almost equally notorious, from the elegance of the chimney ornaments

into which they are formed. The booksellers and other persons at Cowes have lately shewn considerable skill in the tasteful arrangement of these beautifully varied sands, and these elegant remembrancers of an excursion to the Island have received extensive patronage from the visiting public.

As to the general surface of the Wight, "it is," (as Mr. Sturch, one of the first historians of the Island, remarks,) "but changing one's position, for which a quarter of an hour's riding is sufficient, and the scene is cast into a new form; it is varied by so many new lines, and new disclosures of land and water, that it no longer appears to be the same thing."

Besides the Medina river, already mentioned, the Island is watered by several other streams. One rises a few miles to the west of Newport; another rising in a different quarter takes an eastern direction; while smaller springs are numerously dispersed over the country. Not less than eight or nine water-mills are kept in motion within about a mile of Newport, by these supplies; and, as Mr. Sturch pleasingly remarks "we are enriched by them without profusion, and served by streams which never oppress us with floods and inundations." The water is in general extremely good. It has frequently been carried to the West Indies, and brought back perfectly sweet. Of the Chalybeate Spring at Sand Rock, near Niton, Dr. Marcet observes "I am not acquainted with any chalybeate or aluminous spring in the chemical his-

tory of universal waters, which can be compared, in regard to strength, with this. No doubt therefore can be entertained, that this water will be found to possess, in a very eminent degree, the medical properties which are known to belong to the saline substances it contains." The experience of Dr. Lempriere, who has published his report, after administering this medicine in various cases, confirms the opinion of the above highly respectable authority.

The vegetable productions of the Island include the usual grains, green crops, fruits, timber, shrubs, and flowers of the parent country, but in some of them the good effects of soil and climate are very prominently displayed. "It was many years ago computed, that more wheat was grown here in one year than would be consumed by the inhabitants in eight; doubtless its present produce, under the great improvement of agriculture, and the additional quantity of land lately brought into tillage, has more than kept pace with the increase of population." * Among the fruits, figs and grapes are observed to ripen more perfectly in the Wight, than is common in the open air of England. Timber was formerly very plentiful, as it is said that in the time of Charles II, "a squirrel might have travelled here for many leagues together on the tops of the trees," but the vast demands of the naval yards in the neighbourhood have materially reduced it. The shrubs of the

* Sir Richard Worsley.

Island have long been proverbial for beauty and superior growth. Every visitor notices the myrtles, and some of the indigenous flowers have excited much admiration,—particularly the digitalis and the bee and butterfly orchis. A very curious variety of sea weed is found on the southern coast, and even the northern shores present some fine specimens.

Excepting the badger, the pole cat, and the fox, with the absence of which the islanders can very well dispense, the quadrupeds of the Wight are generally similar to those of the main land. The horses are however, remarkably fine, the sheep and lambs very numerous,* and as though every thing here must be superior in its kind, the very swine are said to excel: "The hogs are I believe, of a breed peculiar to the Island, at least, I do not recollect seeing any of the same in other places. They are large and tall, marked with black spots, have very deep sides, and their bacon is excellent."† Lest, however, the excellence of the cattle and their pastures, should be called in question from the significant appellation of "Isle of Wight Rock," which is applied to the cheese of this country, it may be proper to remark, that the inferiority of this article arises from causes which neither the creature nor its food can at all control. The nature of things, indeed, forbids that any milk

* It is computed that 40,000 sheep are fed on the downs stretching from Bembridge to the Needles.

† Warner's Agricultural Views.

should afford superior cheese, when, to obtain cream and butter, it has already been reduced to

“Three times skimmed sky-blue.”

The Devon and Alderney cows are principally used in the Wight, and should a period arrive when the natives and visitors shall be less attached to superior cream and butter, the saw, the chopping block, and the axe will be less necessary to the enjoyment of its cheese.

In *Birds* the Island presents, in the proper seasons, a variety and number not often equalled. Game is plentiful, but not very easily obtained, as each proprietor, in imitation of the other lords of England, generally publishes an annual announcement of pains and penalties, with a declaration of his own determination to protect his franchise. Wild fowl in swans, soland geese, eider ducks, widgeon, puffins, razor-bills, willocks, gulls, Cornish choughs, cormorants, daws, starlings, and wild pigeons are found in their usual haunts and seasons. As a rarity an eagle was once known to make her nest, and bring forth her young in Culver Cliffs.

Fish is neither as cheap nor as plentiful, at the watering places of the Island, as might be conjectured by a stranger. Whether the steam packets have frightened them away, (as some of the islanders affirm,)—or the “march of intellect” has so far extended to the watery tribes that they are not now to

be caught,—or the fishermen are destitute of skill,—or monopolists exist on the shores,—or whether there have been destructive wars among the finny tribes themselves, in the Channel and Solent, “this deponent sayeth not.” It is however the fact, that some visiting citizens complain that “the nearer the sea the dearer the fish.” But in sweetness the supply is generally of so marked a character as to render the scarcity the more annoying. The prawns and lobsters are excellent, and, compared with the finny tribes, plentiful. Cray-fish and very fine crabs are pretty freely and cheaply supplied. The whiting, whiting-pouts, soles, mullet, and bace are greatly admired, when they can be procured. A dory may now and then be obtained. Cod and salmon are caught in the neighbourhood, and besides the shoals of herring and mackarel* which come periodically to the coasts, a small but excellent fish is procured, particularly at Sandown bay, which is called the sand sprat, and sold by the quart. Fine smelts are tolerably plentiful at Cowes, being taken by fishermen near the quays, and some of the lodging houses which have back grounds towards the water, have conveniences which enable the visitor to procure them by his own prowess. The oysters of the Wootton, Newport, and Newtown Rivers are prized. Those of the Fawley, about two miles up the Medina from Cowes, may be partaken of on the spot, at a small inn by the

* The Island has a species of mackarel almost peculiar to the neighbourhood; it is small, but remarkably sweet.

water side, with an increased relish, in the season, after the pleasures of a short but delightful sail. Whelks, muscles, limpets, cockles, and winkles are moderately supplied. The cuttle fish and razor fish are common on the coast, as will readily be perceived by the bones of the former, and the cast shells of the latter so plentifully strewed on the shores. The porpoise may be often met with in the Solent, sharks are seen, and sometimes caught at the back of the Island, and, "upon a time," a grampus has been known to pay for his temerity in becoming a visitor within the Wight. A fish of this latter species was left on the shores near Yarmouth in the year 1817, and became a spectacle to the public for several days. The dead body was at length towed to Portsmouth, and the blubber, bones, &c. secured without the dangers of the northern whalers.

At the time of the last Census, the Island was reported to contain a population of 32,000 persons. It is commonly said that the inhabitants are not generally distinguishable in any respect from their countrymen of the main land; and the compiler of this small production has many reasons for not attempting materially to disturb a verdict which has been given with so much unanimity. The minute description of 32,000 human beings, taken from any portion of the habitable globe, and especially from a country where there is so much variety in circumstances, education, employment, and association, as in the Isle of Wight, is not

to be afforded in the compass of a duodecimo volume. He, who would give it, should also have greater freedom from prejudice and prepossession than is usually enjoyed by any resident in a particular locality. The editor will therefore only observe, that if every reader will try to do as much real good as may be practicable, and as little evil as possible, during a residence in, or a visit to, the garden of England, some of its moral deformities may possibly be yet further removed ; and the fair face of nature in this lovely spot, be rendered increasingly attractive, by the brightest of all ornaments,—a virtuous and intelligent race of human inhabitants.

Among the Islanders whose names have been distinguished in the annals of literature, science, politics, and religion, the following are presented as the most likely to interest the general reader.

Sir John Cheke, at one time the pride and boast of the Cambridge university, descended from a family whose estate and mansion were at Mottiston. He was born in 1514, and entered of St. John's College in the seventeenth year of his age. He was not only instrumental in bringing the study of the Greek language into general repute, but in reforming an uncouth and barbarous pronunciation of it, which had then long prevailed. He met in this labour, with much opposition, and with some "*not* apostolic blows and knocks," from Gardiner, of Winchester ; but by his firmness, learning, and accuracy he at length suc-

ceeded. In 1544 he was appointed one of Prince Edward's tutors, and Milton afterwards apostrophized him in those lines :

"Thy age like our's, O soul of Sir John Cheke,
Hated not learning worse than toad or asp,
When thou taught'st Cambridge and King Edward greek."

Edward, who was himself a fine scholar, honoured his preceptor with knighthood in 1551, and soon afterwards made him chamberlain of the Exchequer, and a member of the Privy Council. But, alas ! those bright days were soon overcast. The immature death of the amiable monarch soon threw the whole protestant interest of the kingdom into the greatest consternation. Sir John took part with the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, became her secretary, and was arraigned and condemned for high treason, though Mary was not then acknowledged Sovereign. He was indeed pardoned, but obliged to travel for quiet and subsistence. For awhile he read Greek lectures at Padua, and afterwards at Strasburg, when receiving information that his lady was at Brussels in her way to meet him, he hastened thither to join her, but being basely betrayed, he was brought home prisoner, and committed to the tower. In this situation he was daily visited by the Queen's chaplains, who teased him to become reconciled to their holy mother. Finding their arguments ineffectual, they at length plainly told him he must turn or burn. The frailty of nature here overcame him, and he purchased a

little more of life, by a forced and reluctant recantation. Being however compelled to witness the examination of heretics on almost every occasion, a bondage to a generous mind, undoubtedly far worse than death, he survived this extreme vexation but about a year, and died September 13th, 1557. His character, with the exception of this frailty, is held in high estimation; and who, till the time of trial arrives, can answer for himself in so trying a case?

Dr. Henry Cole, who was born at Godshill, in the early part of the sixteenth century, was honorably mentioned by Leland, the Antiquary; and also by Ascham, who says of his learning and politeness, "I must be totally destitute of these qualities myself, if I did not both love and admire them in you." But his interested vacillations in religion, and the serio-comic story of his failure in the abominable mission "to lash the heretics of Ireland," have deservedly beclouded his memory. The trick of Mrs. Edmonds who exchanged his commission for a pack of cards, and by that means saved the Irish protestants, is well known. He held many lucrative posts and preferments; but few readers will rejoice in the honors of the man who preached the "execution sermon" when Cranmer was brought to the stake.

Dr. Thomas James, a learned critic, divine, and antiquary, was born at Newport, about the year 1571. He was educated at Winchester, and studied at Oxford, where he took his degree of D.D. and was keeper of the public library. He distinguished himself

by the arduous undertaking of publishing a catalogue of the MSS. in each college library at both universities. He was elected to the office at the age of thirty one, and held it eighteen years, when he resigned it. In the convocation held by the parliament at Oxford, in 1625, of which he was a member, he moved to have proper commissioners appointed to collate the MSS. of the fathers in all the libraries in England, with the popish editions, in order to detect any forgeries; but this proposal not meeting with the desired encouragement, he engaged in the laborious task himself, which he continued until his death in 1629. He was the friend and associate of Camden, the author of the *Britannia*, and is said to have been a man of uncommon memory and extensive reading. Dr. James left behind him a great number of learned works, and had commenced a history of the Island in Latin, which is still in the Bodleian Library. He was so celebrated for his erudition as to be termed a living library.

Admiral Hobson, a gallant commander in the reign of Queen Anne was born at Bouchurch, on the southern coast of the Island. He is said to have been apprenticed to a tailor near Niton, from whose service he deserted, by a boat from the English fleet then passing the spot, and immediately entered as an ordinary sailor. The next day they fell in with a French squadron, and immediately engaged. "After fighting cheerfully for two hours, he inquired of the

Dr. Robert Hooke, a learned philosopher and mathematician, was born at Freshwater in 1635. He very early discovered his genius for mechanics, by making curious toys with great art and dexterity. Under Dr. Busby in Westminster School, he acquired Greek and Latin, with Hebrew and some other Oriental languages ; and made himself master of a great part of Euclid's Elements. About 1653 he went to Christchurch in Oxford, and in 1655 was introduced to the philosophical society there. The society first employed him to assist Dr. Wallis in his operations in chemistry, and afterwards recommended him to the Honourable Robert Boyle, whom he served several years in the same capacity. About this time he was instructed in astronomy by Dr. Seth Ward, and afterwards distinguished himself by many mechanical inventions and improvements. He invented several astronomical instruments for making observations both at sea and land, and was particularly serviceable to Mr. Boyle, in completing the invention of the air pump. Sir John Cutler having founded a mechanical school in 1664, settled an annual stipend on Mr. Hooke for life. He was also elected about this time to the curatorship of experiments by the Royal Society, with an additional salary. At the rebuilding of London, after the dreadful fire of 1666, Mr. Hooke was appointed one of the two surveyors, and thereby acquired much property. In 1677, he became secretary to the Royal Society ; was afterwards

employed in forming the plan of the hospital, near Hoxton; and in 1691 was created M.D. by warrant from archbishop Tillotson. He died March 3rd, 1702, at Gresham College, and was buried in St. Helen's Church, Bishopgate Street, his funeral being attended by all the members of the Royal Society then in London. He wrote, "*Lectiones Cutlerianæ.*" "*Micrographiæ, or, description of minute bodies made by magnifying glasses.*" "*Description of Helioscopes.*" "*Description of some mechanical improvements of lamps and water poises.*" "*Philosophical Collections.*" After his death were published, "*Posthumous Works, collected from his papers by Richard Waller, secretary to the Royal Society.*"

Among the early efforts of this distinguished individual, his biographer, Aubrey, mentions that "when Mr. Hooke was a boy, Hoskyn, the painter, being at Freshwater, to draw a picture for a neighbouring gentleman, Mr. Hooke, observed what he did, and, thought he, why cannot I do so too? so he gets him chalk, and ruddle, and coal, and grinds them, and puts them in a trencher, got a pencil, and to work he went and made a picture; then he copied (as they hung up in the parlour,) the pictures there. Also being a boy, then at Freshwater, he made a dial on a round trencher, having never had any instruction."

Dr. Hooke was the inventor of the pendulum spring in watches, and the universal hinge. He is

said also to have invented *thirty several modes of flying*, but happily for the shoemakers, the coachmen, the watermen, and the proprietors of steam packets, no one of those latter discoveries has proved available to the public.

Sir Richard Worsley was born at Appuldurcombe, and died there in 1805. He was comptroller of His Majesty's household; governor of the Isle of Wight; colonel of the south Hants Militia; member of Parliament for Newport; a distinguished traveller; the collector of the valuable antiques and paintings at the family seat; and the best historian of the Isle of Wight. For the two latter services both the writer and reader are probably under some obligations. No visitor at Appuldurcombe will be unmindful of the services of a gentleman who freighted a ship, and, at great expense, engaged excellent artists to accompany him on his tour through Italy, Spain, Greece, Egypt, Asia Minor, and Tartary, to furnish the museum which has excited so much admiration; and certainly few persons have subsequently written on the Island, without being materially helped by his labours in the largest and best history of his native Isle. Considerable use has been made of that work in compiling the following chapter of the present publication; but the method of arrangement is different, and the most material parts of his quarto history, are, with several incidents not mentioned by Sir Richard, here condensed into the compass of a few duodecimo pages.

CHAPTER II.

CHRONOLOGICAL MEMORANDA

OF SOME OF THE MORE REMARKABLE EVENTS WHICH
HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT, FROM ITS
FIRST DISCOVERY TO THE PRESENT TIME.

	A.M.
Discovery of the Island supposed to have taken place at the same time with the peopling of England, from Gaul, about	3004
Phœnicians said to have traded here for Cornish tin, about	3504
The Greeks of Marseilles reported to have suc- ceeded them in the traffic, about	3800
	A.D.
The Roman standard planted in the Island by Vespasian	43
Unsupported tradition fixes the first erection of a fortress at Carisbrooke, about the same time	43
Staple of tin removed from the Island to Lon- don, about	44

Island said to have remained in much peace, under the Roman government for about 400 years	
The Saxon conquest of Britain, made by Cerdic and Henric in	495
Cerdic took Carisbrooke Fortress	530
The Island bequeathed by Cerdic to his nephews, Stuff and Withgar, and most of the natives murdered	534
The Island first subdued and laid waste, by Wulfer, King of Mercia, and then given by him as a <i>pious present</i> to Edelwalch, King of the South Saxons, his baptismal sponsor	661
Edelwalch destroyed, and the Island after being ravaged by Caedwalla, a descendent of Cerdic, was resumed by him as his inheritance	686
Christianity, or at least something bearing its <i>name</i> , introduced into the Island, under the sanction of Caedwalla, who first mur- dered 900 families of the poor idolatrous natives, and then placed the remaining 300 under bishop Wilfred, who had prevailed on him to spare them, if they would submit to baptism.	686
Part of the present Carisbrooke Castle, in- cluding the Keep, built	692
Brading church built	720

	A.D.
Island surprised by Danish pirates,	787
Danish pirates again plundered the Island, but were afterwards overtaken, and pun- ished by Alfred,	897
Repeated attacks of the Danish pirates, from 998 to	1001
Newtown, (or Werrow, a large hamlet near Thorley) burned by the Danes,	1001
Earl Godwin made a descent on the Island,	1052
Carisbrooke Church erected,	1064
Tosti, Godwin's son, again attacked the Wight,	1066
Island bestowed by William the Conqueror, on William Fitzosborn, after the battle of Hastings, in	1066
Inner area of the present fortress of Caris- brooke Castle built, and the priory of Carisbrooke, founded by Fitzosborn, about	1068
Roger de Britteville, earl of Hereford, and third son of Fitzosborn, succeeded to the lordship of the Island,	1070
Roger, offended with the King for opposing the marriage of his sister, conspired with his friends to depose him, but was taken, tried, and sentenced to perpetual imprison- ment, with the forfeiture of his lands,	1078
He died in prison, after resisting some peace- ful overtures from William,	1086

	A.D.
Part of Newchurch church built before the doomsday survey, which was made	1086
The Lordship of the Island, after this, continued in the crown, until Henry I. granted it to Richard de Redvers, a Norman of high descent,	1100
The lords of the Island allowed their own courts of judicature for the trial of all offences, except treason and murder, about	1120
Quarr Abbey founded by Baldwin de Redvers, afterwards lord of the Island,	1132
Baldwin succeeded to the lordship, in 1135, and being a partizan for the Emperess Maud, against King Stephen, he fortified his castle and the Island for her. They were however taken, and he was obliged to fly the kingdom with his wife and family,	1135
On the accommodation between Maud and Stephen, Baldwin was restored, and at length died at Quarr and was there buried,	1155
An alien priory of Cluniac monks existed at St. Helen's, before	1155
Newport Church built, and dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, about	1155
Richard II. de Redvers succeeded to the lordship of the Island, and added to his father's provision for the abbey of Quarrera. He died,	1162
Baldwin II. de Redvers, succeeded his father; Richard III. de Vernon, succeeded him;	

- and both dying without issue, the Island devolved to William de Vernon, 1184
- William, among the other barons, suffered from the extortion of King John, who fearful of his resentment obliged him to deliver his grandson as a hostage for his fidelity.
- King John retired to the Island, to meditate revenge after the forced concessions of Magna Charta, 1215
- William de Vernon died and was succeeded by his daughter Joan, wife of the famous Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, 1216
- On her dying without issue, Baldwin III. and after him Baldwin IV. were lords of the Island, the latter died, about 1240
- Yarmouth received its first charter of franchises from Baldwin V. in the reign of Henry III. about 1250
- After the death of Baldwin, who is said to have died of poison, given him at the table of his kinsman, Peter de Savoy, the succession devolved on Isabella de Fortibus who lived in great state at Carisbrooke Castle, 1283
- Isabella founded a cell of benedictine monks at Appuldurcombe, but is said notwithstanding her benevolence, to have nobly resisted the encroachments of the monks. From this countess, Newport received its charter of Franchises.

There was a priory of canons at Barton, now the farm, near Whippingham, in	1284
The Island was sold by Isabella to the crown, for 6000 marks, or four thousand pounds sterling, and the deed signed on her dying bed, in	1293
Yarmouth, and Newport, sent members to parliament, in	1295
Edward I. retained the lordship in his own hands, but appointed wardens to defend the Island, against Philip of France, about	1295
Edward II. gave the custody of the Island to his favourite, Piers Gaveston,	1307
On the remonstrances of the nobility, he took it from him, and gave it to his own son, afterwards Edward III.	1308
Hermitage at Chale, known, (by the registry of Winchester Church,) to have been standing in	1312
A small chapel built on St. Catherine's hill, by Walter de Godyton,	1323
Sir John Oglander says that there were above a hundred churches, chapels, abbeys, priories, nunneries, and oratories in the Island, in	1337
The Islanders, who were inclined to leave, from the danger of a French invasion, compelled by Edward III. to remain, on pain of forfeiting their property, about	1340

Only three ports allowed in the Island, and none but licensed boats allowed to land, except those of Sir Bartholomew de Lisle, Robert de Pimeley, and the abbot of Quarr, 1340

Node Hill, Newport, rendered famous as the burial-place of French invaders, who were here slain by an ambuscade placed in defence of Carisbrooke Castle. They were called by the natives "noddia" or "noddies" from whence the present name. 1378

The lordship of the Island granted by Richard II. to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, 1386

On the death of William in 1397, Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, and afterwards Duke of Surry, had a grant of the custody of Carisbrooke Castle, with its fees for his life. He was beheaded, 1399

Edward, Earl of Rutland, and afterwards Duke of York, obtained a grant of the Island. He was degraded by Henry IV. and consequently entered into a conspiracy to kill the King at Windsor on the twelfth night, but disclosing the plot was pardoned and reinstated in his lands. He afterwards obtained leave to lead the van at the battle of Agincourt, but "being a fat man was thrown down, and smothered in the throng," 1415

- Philippa, Duchess of York, obtained a grant
of the Island on his death, 1415
- French landed for the purpose, as they said,
of "keeping Christmas," but met with a
sorry reception and were repulsed, 1418
- Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, sometimes
called the *good duke*, succeeded to the
lordship, 1439
- Henry de Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, .
crowned KING of the Island, by Henry VI. 1445
- Richard Plantagenet, Lord of the Island, 1449
- Edmund, Duke of Somerset, obtained a grant
of this Island in satisfaction of some
exchequer dues, and "the duties of petty
customs in the port of London." He was
slain at the first battle of St. Albans, 1455
- Henry, duke of Somerset, succeeded his father
in the lordship of the Wight; he first quit-
ted the royal party, and joined the Yorkists,
but returning to the king's service, was
taken prisoner by the Yorkists, at the bat-
tle of Hexham, and by them beheaded, 1463
- Inner gate of Carisbrooke Castle erected in
the reign of Edward IV. by Lord Wood-
ville, who quartered the king's arms, and
the roses of York thereon, 1465
- Anthony de Wydeville, or Woodville, Earl
Rivers, had a grant of the Island in 1464,
but, after the decease of Edward IV. "he

A.D.

standing in the way of the ambitious views of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was seized, and, without any legal process, beheaded in Pontefract Castle."

1483

Sir Edward Wydeville, brother of the above, made *captain* of the Island,

1485.

Forty gentlemen, and 400 stout commoners were raised by Sir Edward Wydeville, in the Island, and embarked at St. Helens, to assist the Duke of Brittany against France. They were clothed in white coats and red crosses. Sir Edward and his whole company, excepting one little boy who brought home the tidings, were slain at the battle of St. Aubin's,

1488

It is questionable whether Sir Edward Wydeville was *lord* or only *captain* of the Island, but certain that after his death, Henry VII. intent upon lessening the power of the barons, never granted away the lordship. After this the Wight was governed by a kind of military appointment. It was, however, *leased* to Sir Reginald Bray, in

1495.

An act, which, though unrepealed, could never be long carried into effect, was passed, "to prevent any one person in the Island from holding a farm of more than the yearly value of ten marks, or £6. 13s 4d."

1499

A D.

- Henry VII. visited Dame Joanna Bowerman,
at Brook, and there granted her a warrant
to receive yearly from Carisbrooke forest, a
fat buck. The warrant dated August, 1499
- After the death of Sir Nicholas Wadham, who
succeeded Sir R. Bray, Sir James Worsley
was constituted captain of the Island, for
life, with a salary of 6s..9d. per day, for
himself, 2s. for his deputy, and 6d. each for
thirteen servants, 1511
- A religious house for "the brethers and sisters
of the fraternity of St. John Baptist,"
known to have been standing at Northwood,
near the church, about 1530
- East and West Cowes, and Sandown Castles,
built by Henry VIII. and Cowes *named* in 1540
- Mandate issued by Henry VIII. to prevent the
killing of game in the Island, 1541
- Richard Worsley, Esq. who had been, ap-
pointed captain of the Island in 1538,
received a visit from Henry VIII. at
Appuldurcombe; the true reason for the
mandate to preserve the game now appear-
ed, for Henry, himself, chose to hawk
and hunt in the Island, about 1542
- Yarmouth Church (the second building) des-
troyed, by the French, and the castle
thereupon built on the spot, by Henry VIII.
The present church was also built at the
same time, 1544

- Two thousand French soldiers, landing on the Island by Admiral D'Annebaut, were driven back to their ships, with loss, confusion, and the death of the admiral, by Captain Richard Worsley, governor of the Island, 1545
- On the accession of Queen Mary, Captain Worsley, who had been zealous for the reformation, resigned, and was succeeded by Captain Gerling; but on the Queen's death Richard Worsley was reinstated, 1558
- Fire arms first introduced into the Island, by Captain Worsley, about 1559
- Alum ore sought in the Isle of Wight, by warrant granted to R. Worsley, dated March 7, 1561
- A warrant to Richard Worsley, Esq. captain of the Isle of Wight, "to search for Queen Elizabeth's hawks," which had been stolen, and were supposed to be in the Island; dated June 6, 1564
- Sir Edward Horsey, whose figure, in alabaster, lies in Newport church, made governor, 1565
- He took much pains in preserving the game, and is reported to have given a lamb for every hare that was brought to him alive from the neighbouring counties.
- The plageraged at Newport, and the inhabitants, who had previously interred at Carisbrooke, were permitted to set apart their present burial place, 1583

	A.D.
Sir George Carey assumed the title of governor,*	1588
The Islanders for the first time complained of their governor,	1588
Nearly £500 expended on Carisbrooke Castle, in preparation for the Spanish Armada,	1588
Platform at the back of Carisbrooke Castle, with the bridge and gateway at the entrance, erected, and inscribed "E. R."	1598
The oaken chairs, in the great room. at Newtown, said to have been carved about	1600.
Henry earl of Southampton, captain of the Island,	1603.
An unsuccessful attempt made by Sir Bevis Thelwall, and Sir Hugh Middleton, to recover Brading Harbour from the sea; about	1610.
The free grammar school at Newport, erected	1619
Northcourt, a real antique, erected in the time of Inigo Jones,	1630
Lord Conway, captain of the Island 1625 ; succeeded by Jerom, earl of Portland,	1634
The Island being possessed by the parliament early in the civil wars of the 17th century ;	

* Before this time the Islanders seldom went to London without making their wills, "supposing no trouble like to travel, and thinking it an East India Voyage." Oglander remarks that "before this period there was no lawyer or attorney in the Island; but in Sir George Carey's time, an attorney coming to settle in the Island, was, by his command, with a pound of candles hanging at his breech lighted, with bells about his legs, hunted out of the Island."

Jerom was imprisoned, and his heroic lady, the countess of Portland, after defending Carisbrooke Castle against Moses Read, the republican mayor of Newport, was at length obliged to quit the Wight,

1642

Philip, earl of Pembroke, appointed captain of the Island, by the parliament, and respectfully received by the gentlemen and principal farmers, who assembled at Cowes, for that purpose, October 3rd,

1642

Colonel Hammond was appointed governor of the Island, and received, (at first as his *guest*,) King Charles I. at Carisbrooke Castle, November 12th,

1647

Attempt made by King Charles to escape from the window of what he now discovered to be his *prison*, December 24th,

1647

After making some other fruitless attempts to escape, Charles met the commissioners of the parliament at the Free School, Newport, at various times from September 18th to November 25th,

1648

The King seized by the army, and conveyed to Hurst Castle, November 29th,

1648

Colonel Sydenham succeeded Colonel Hammond

1649

Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles I. died at Carisbrooke, September 8th,

1650

Isle of Wight Militia raised, and charged, in case of invasion "to raise the garr, ring

the bells, and send about the hoblers to give alarm."

1651

West Cowes Chapel of Ease built,

1653

Lord Culpepper appointed governor, on the re-establishment of the regal power in England,

1660

Aluminous Spring discovered at Shanklin, by Dr. Frazer, physician to Charles II.

1663

The inhabitants complain to the King of Lord Culpepper, who though permitted by the King to continue governor, chose to resign soon after. Admiral Sir Robert Holmes succeeded him, in

1667

King Charles II. visited Sir Robert Holmes, at Yarmouth, then a garrison town, strongly fortified. He was received by Sir Robert at his large house, now the George Inn, Yarmouth,

1671

John, Lord Cutts, made governor soon after the death of Sir Robert Holmes,

1693

This governor having disfranchised several burgesses of Newtown, and imprisoned a clergyman for several weeks in Cowes Castle, the gentlemen of the Island prepared a petition to the House of Commons, complaining of his arbitrary character. He was prudent enough to see, and to confess, that he had gone too far, and having retraced his steps, became a popular governor till his death, in

1706

Charles, Marquis of Winchester succeeded Lord Cutts, and was afterwards assisted by a lieutenant governor with a salary of 20s. per diem,	1707
Appuldurcombe House begun, on the site of a priory, by Sir Robert Worsley,	1710
General Webb, governor, in	1710
William Lord Cadogan, in	1715
A new Church built at St. Helens, and the remains of the old one left as a sea-mark,	1719
Charles, duke of Bolton, governor, in	1726
John, Lord Lymington, succeeded in	1734
Ashey sea-mark, erected on the down	1735
Chapel of Carisbrooke Castle, dated	1738
Charles, Duke of Bolton, re-instated as governor,	1742
John, Lord Lymington, Earl of Portsmouth, now became again governor of the Island,	1745
A quantity of gold dust being found mingled with the sands in Chale bay, the inhabitants supposing there was a mine in the neighbourhood, expected to be made rich in a trice; but, Spanish dollars being also found, they were at length reluctantly convinced that both came from the wreck of a Spanish vessel,	1750
Gatcombe House, built by Sir Edward Worsley, in	1750
Militia raised in the Island,	1757

	A.D.
Thomas, Lord Holmes, Governor of the Wight,	1763
The pointed rock, from which the Needles received their name, fell in the night, and the shock is said to have been felt as far as Southampton,	1764
Hans Stanley, Esq. Governor of the Island,	1764
Harry, Duke of Bolton, Governor,	1766
House of Industry commenced,	1770
Right Hon. Hans Stanley again Governor,	1770
Additional sum borrowed by act of parliament for the House of Industry,	1776
Godshill Church struck by lightning,	1778
Sir Richard Worsley, Bart. appointed Governor,	1780
The Duke of Bolton again appointed Governor	1782
Royal George lost, off Spithead, August 29th,	1782
Right Hon. Thomas Orde appointed Governor, but the appointment of Captains to the Castles reserved in the King's power,	1789
Attempt of Sir R. Worsley to propagate the vines of Bretagne, in a regular vineyard at St. Lawrence,	1792
Albany Barracks commenced,	1798
The landslip occurred near Niton,	1799
Little Jane, died at Brading, Jan. 30th,	1799
The Dairyman's Daughter, died at Arreton,	1801
The Islanders much disturbed, and the volunteers called out on a false alarm of invasion from the French,	1804
During the French war pitch barrels were	

always kept at various parts of the Island, and the lighting of them was the signal by which several alarms were announced about the same time,	1804
Norris Castle, erected by — Wyatt, Esq. for Lord Henry Seymour,	1804
Sir Richard Worsley, the Historian of the Island, died at Appuldurcombe,	1805
Act of Parliament passed for the recovery of small debts in the Island,	1806
Sand Rock Spring Chalybeate, discovered by Mr. Waterworth,	1807
Newport was represented by Sir A. Wellesley, since the Duke of Wellington,	1807
The ancient square tower of Shalfleet church exchanged for a steeple,	1808
A soldier slipped down Freshwater Cliffs and was dashed to pieces. This case is <i>men- tioned</i> as one warning to <i>children</i> and <i>others</i> not to approach too near the edge of the cliffs,—but several more might have been named,	1808
East Cowes Castle, built by J. Nash, Esq.	1809
The “Isle of Wight Institution,” a public library, supported by the principal nobility and gentry of the Island, founded at Newport,	1810
The Pomona Frigate, lost off the Needles, June 12th,	1811

	A.D.
The first East India ship, Henry Addington, lost off Bembridge Ledge,	1812
Alexandrian Pillar erected by Michael Hoy, Esq. to commemorate the visit of the Emperor of Russia to this country,	1814
Ryde Pier built,	1814
The Guildhall and Market-place at Newport, erected by J. Nash, Esq.	1816
The Earl of Malmesbury appointed governor of the Island,	1807
The Royal Lancasterian School at Newport instituted in January	1812
The National School at Newport instituted in February	1812
"The Coburg," the first steam packet to the Island commenced running from Southamp- ton to Cowes,	1817
Cattle market instituted at Newport,	1820
The Earl of Dysart, died,	1821
Lord Henry Seymour received the honor of a visit from his most gracious Majesty, George IV. and on the day that His Majesty dined at Norris Castle, the poor of the Parish of Whippingham dined on the castle grounds. This benevolent Nobleman thus evinced his regard for "the rich and the poor," in	1821
The Royal Yacht Club formed, about	1821
The Isle of Wight Philosophical Society formed, about	1822

- The barrows on Arreton and Shalcomb downs,
and the ancient graves on Chessel down,
opened, and found to contain skeletons,
partly-burnt bones, various weapons, trin-
kets, urns, &c. between 1817 and 1824
- The "Mechanic's Institution" at Newport,
commenced 1825
- The Cowes Parade enlarged, 1826
- Fresh landlip, on the grounds of — Sarmon,
Esq. near Bonchurch, 1827
- New church at Bembridge erected, 1827
- The barque "Melville Watson," wrecked in
Chale Bay, May 27th, 1827
- The "Happy Return," laden with tin, was
wrecked on Warden Ledge. The master had
put into Yarmouth to obtain assistance for
a female in labour on board, and the vessel
afterwards drifted on this dangerous bank.
Mr. Wavell, of Newport, whose benevolent
ardour, in his profession, had led him to
visit the woman a second time, (contrary
to the advice of the boatmen,) fell a victim
to his honourable assiduity, and was
drowned; but most of the crew were saved, 1827
- A new church erected at Ryde, and the old
one also re-built, 1828
- Some time after the melancholy death of a
poor lad who was smothered in one of the

- chimneys at the barracks, a society was formed in the Island to supersede the employment of climbing boys :—this attempt to abolish the practice of treating white boys worse than black slaves made in 1828
- The Borough of Newport was represented in parliament by the Right Honourable George Canning, 1828
- “The Carnbrea Castle,” East India trader, wrecked off Brooke Ledge, July 1829
- The schooner “Nightingale,” wrecked on the shingles. The loss of this vessel was rendered unusually affecting by the circumstance of its being left with a lieutenant of the navy on board, who, being a maniac, was on his way to a place of confinement. He appeared to have recovered his reason during the dangers of the vessel, but was unhappily drowned, 1829
- Ryde paved, and converted from a village to a town, 1829
- The New Road, by the shore, to Egypt, formed 1829
- Great improvements in Cowes Castle, and the new landing place on the parade, made 1830

CHAPTER III.

THE COWES VISITORS' COMPANION.

THE principal sea-port of the Isle of Wight has, for some years, attracted attention as a beautiful and eligible spot for the recreation of summer visitors. Its convenient and excellent bathing,—the land and sea views in the neighbourhood,—its general freedom from the offensive effluvia common at some bathing places in the absence of the tide,—the safety of its harbour and roadstead,—the facilities for landing or embarking in any state of the wind or tide,—the fine river entering from the harbour,—its sufficient proximity to the romantic scenery of the Island,—its accommodations for marine excursions,—and the facilities of access to Netley, Beaulieu, Lympington, Southampton, Portsmouth, and the coasts of the Wight, could scarcely fail to render Cowes a place of extensive and popular summer resort. The limited scale of its accommodations has, for some time,

tended to check its greater progress; but as the number of lodging houses has more than trebled in the last few years, and the system of trade is now rapidly assimilating to that of other towns, it may yearly be expected to increase in popularity and consequence. This will, probably, be strikingly seen, should the additional buildings at the south-eastern extremity be succeeded, as is contemplated, by the erection of more numerous villas and lodging houses under the western cliff.

The first impression, on reaching the roadstead off Cowes, is usually of an agreeable kind. The expanse of water to the east and west,—the imposing appearance of Norris and East Cowes Castles,—the number and varied character of the vessels,—the fine tower of West Cowes Chapel,—the amphitheatrical cast of the south-eastern and south-western shores,—the apparent bursting of the foliage from the very habitations of man,—with the perspective of the Medina directly south, and the high lands of the Wight in the distance, constitute an entire spectacle not often successfully rivalled. It is not surprising that distinguished marine painters should have chosen this scene for their back-ground.

The facilities of *landing* at this port can hardly be appreciated by any who have not personally realized the alarm, inconvenience, and danger, of passing at some watering places from the vessel to the shore. The very “fair wind” which entices us to visit some

neighbourhoods, raises, upon their landing places, a surf more unpleasant, and even dangerous, than a stiff opposing breeze in a decked vessel, and with sufficient sea room. But no wind can blow from which *some* of the numerous landing places at Cowes are not conveniently sheltered. It is *very rarely* necessary to vary the place of landing, but when it is desirable, the passengers may comfort themselves with the idea of numerous facilities for escaping the inconveniences of imprisonment in a vessel at anchor, or a drenching in passing to the land.

There are excellent jetties for landing by boat at the Marine Hotel, and the Vine Inn; but the greatest accommodation in this way was afforded by the late George Ward, Esq. who, at a great expense, erected a fine quay on the premises of the Fountain Inn, which admits the landing of passengers immediately from the steam packets without the employment of smaller boats. This improvement has not only facilitated the communication from the packets, and thrown open the views from the inn; but has afforded a sort of new promenade of rather an interesting character. When three or four steam packets happen to be discharging or receiving passengers, at the same time, it really presents an amusing spectacle. Recognitions, salutations, congratulations, enquiries, directions, cautions, and adieus are heard on every hand; while the house agents and shopkeepers afford to the stranger,

the most convincing proofs that if he continue houseless, or unsupplied with the conveniences of life, the fault will not be theirs.

There are three principal inns for visitors at West Cowes; the Fountain, (Mr. Webb;) the Vine, (Mr. Hale;) both in the High Street; and the Marine Hotel, (Mr. Helmore;) on the Parade. These are all respectable houses; and we believe that each of the proprietors is ambitious of promoting the comforts of his company. The smaller inns are too numerous to be referred to, here, but they are mentioned in the directory at the close of the volume.

The first appearance of the Cowes High Street, is, considerably to its disadvantage; and especially with persons whose hasty temperament allows no further examination where early impressions are unfavorable. It is indeed, generally clean, and the shops have been greatly improved of late; but the stranger, perhaps, wonders for a moment whither all the fine scenery can have fled. As there are no magicians in the Isle of Wight, it is, however, fair to conclude that it cannot have been far removed in so short a time. It has not vanished; it is only obscured; and the curtain is again withdrawn on quitting this particular spot. Indeed the marine views, from some of the lodgings in the High Street itself, are singularly good. Many of the houses, with unimposing fronts, have apartments devoted to the stranger which afford

far more pleasing accommodations than would have been supposed ; while, from their contiguity to the shops they present family conveniences for the absence of which neither sylvan shades nor romantic scenery can long compensate. The houses on the eastern side of the High Street have, generally, good sea views from the apartments toward the water ; those on the western side are usually let at a lower rate from the absence of this advantage.

The lodging houses on the hills, the parade, and the West Cliff at the southern extremities, usually restore the visitor's complacency, even though he may not have been tempted to examine the lodgings immediately in the street.

But before we attempt to describe the scenery of this favored spot, it may not be unsuitable to offer a few remarks on the accommodations afforded in the town itself. The market, and the very decently stocked shops of Cowes, render it quite unnecessary that visitors should be burdened or perplexed by the importation of their own supplies. Indeed, when it is considered that the largest vessels (some containing as many as 800 persons) are occasionally recruited from this port, without previous notice ; and that passengers are sometimes here equipped for an East Indian voyage,* it can hardly be supposed that any

* It may not be unworthy of remark that the store shops of Cowes present a great variety of *nautical* instruments, from the huge anchor and chain cable to the finished chronometer and sextant, than is commonly found in towns of much greater extent and apparent consequence.

material want can arise, during a short visit, which cannot be supplied by the resources of the neighbourhood.

On a subject of so much importance as medical attendance, the editor would dread to offer unfounded compliment, but he has much pleasure and confidence in affirming that few towns are in this respect more favored than Cowes. In a residence of some years he has not only seen, among the stated inhabitants, many proofs of the attention and skill of Mr. Charles Day, and of Mr John Davids ; but, after much intercourse with respectable visitors, and particularly with invalids, he can conscientiously affirm that he has invariably heard the professional ability, and the assiduous attention, of these gentlemen very highly spoken of.

Of the places of religious worship in the town we shall offer a few remarks, in the order of the time of their erection.

The episcopal Church was built, during the interregnum, while Cromwell was Protector, and nearly at the time when the crown was offered to that singular and inexplicable man. It is difficult, in the absence of any specific evidence upon the subject, to determine by what religious denomination the place was originally used. Hume remarks that Cromwell was "resolved to maintain a national church ; yet determined neither to admit Episcopacy nor Presbytery,

he established a number of commissioners, under the name of *tryers*, partly laymen, partly ecclesiastics, some presbyterians, some independents. These presented to all livings, which were formerly in the gift of the crown; they examined and admitted such persons as received holy orders; and they inspected the lives, doctrine, and behaviour of the clergy." In the third year of Charles II, this place of worship was, however, certainly consecrated by George, Lord Bishop of Winchester, and since that time it has continued a chapel of ease to Northwood. It was endowed, 1671, with £5 a year, by Mr. Richard Stephens. Sir Richard Worsley adds, "It was farther endowed, in the year 1679, by Bishop Morley, with the sum of £20 per annum; provided the inhabitants paid their minister, (who is always a person of their own choosing) the sum of £40 per annum; but in case of a failure on their part, the said endowment to be forfeited for ever." The chapel was enlarged in the year 1811, it will accommodate about 1000 persons, and continues to be well attended. The Rev. J. B. Atkinson, A.M. was appointed to the incumbency, by the vicar of Northwood, in 1827. It is now understood that the right of presentation by the inhabitants, as mentioned by Sir Richard Worsley, and other historians of the Island, was either by courtesy, or has been forfeited since the appointment of the former curate, the Rev. J. H. Gill. The elegant mausoleum tower was erected a few years since, by

George Ward, Esq. and his remains now lie interred beneath, in company with those of his lady, whose genuine benevolence of character will not soon be forgotten in the neighbourhood. There are a few remarkable epitaphs in the grave yard, but the ventings of bereaved affection, however singular, are hardly fit subjects for cold-blooded criticism.

The Roman Catholic Chapel is a fine building though it is not in a pleasing situation. The inscription on its front thus marks the period of its erection, "*Hæc Ædes impensis piissimæ matronæ Elizabethæ Heneage. Ædificata est. A. D. 1796.*"—The Rev. Alexander Maccabe was appointed the minister in the year 1829.

The chapel of the Independents, or Congregationalists, was built on Sun Hill, in 1802; and the pulpit for some years occupied by the Rev. J. Styles now D.D. of Holland Chapel, Kensington. The Rev. Thomas Mann, the present minister, was elected to this office in April 1822. Since the erection of the additional galleries in 1827, this place has been capable of containing 500 persons, and is generally well attended.

The Wesleyan Chapel near the Parade, was built in 1805, and has since been more than once enlarged. Its affairs are in all respects conducted in the manner which is usual with the body; it will now seat near 400 persons.

The National Schools, in the Meads, were erected in 1821, by public subscription, on ground given by the late George Ward, Esq. The institution is under the patronage of "the King," and supported by voluntary contributions, about two hundred children are educated here.

There are Sunday Schools connected with each of the Protestant places of worship in the neighbourhood. About fifty teachers are thus employed in gratuitous efforts to instruct the children of the poor. It is calculated that about six hundred children are, in these schools, provided with the means of escaping the evils resulting from ignorance, and from the misappropriation of the Christian Sabbath.

A Ladies' Bible Association was established for East and West Cowes, in 1820, under the patronage of her grace the Duchess of Beaufort, and the vice-presidency of the Right Honourable the Ladies Elizabeth, Georgina, and Louisa Somerset.

Under the same patronage, a Seamen's Library was opened in 1820. Its objects were to supply sailors and watermen with the Holy Scriptures at reduced prices, and to lend other instructive and interesting books to these particular classes. Mr. J. Pinhorn is the depository.

A small society for the supply and relief of lying-in women has long existed in the town.

The Friendly Society for relieving the poor, (particularly during the winter and when out of employ,)

has been found of great utility in the neighbourhood. This institution is also under the patronage of the Duchess of Beaufort.

The Rev. J. B. Atkinson has established a "Parochial Lending Library;" a branch of the Savings Bank; and, in conjunction with the Rev. J. Ward, of Whippingham, and other gentlemen, a Dispensary for the supply of medicines to the sick poor. For this latter very important object the said gentlemen, or indeed any of the professional gentlemen of the town will receive contributions. Mr. Manning, Chemist, of the High Street, is the Secretary, and prepares the medicines. Before the establishment of this dispensary, the poor of Cowes had some reason to regret the existence of the House of Industry at Newport; and but for the philanthropy of the medical men already named, and the benevolence of some neighbouring gentry, their condition in sickness would have been truly deplorable. They, could rarely see the Parish Apothecaries appointed from the "House," in consequence of the distance, and when advice was obtained, the medicine was to be fetched from Newport, which, including the return, sometimes amounted to more than a ten miles' walk. It is therefore greatly to be desired that this institution should meet with support. Its affairs are managed by a committee of gentlemen and respectable tradesmen, and no bigotted distinctions are made in the distribution of its benefits.

On reviewing the few last paragraphs, the writer cannot but congratulate his neighbours on that apparent growth of generous principles which has led to the establishment of so many benevolent institutions in so limited a portion of time. The support of these societies must not indeed be mistaken as a substitute for general purity of principle and propriety of practice ; but where they exist in connection with these, they are the brightest ornaments of a town : they are the adornings on which purer spirits look with approbation ; they are among the best and loveliest fruits which even "the Garden of England" can produce.

THE PARADE.

PASSING through the High Street to its northern termination, and then turning either right or left, the visitor will reach that lovely spot the Western Cowes Parade. The passage leading by the watch house, (an establishment in the service of His Majesty's customs,) conducts to the Parade by the Globe Inn, and the Marine Hotel. The other way leads to the same place, by the *Bath Road*, in which is the Wesleyan Chapel; and "the old established cracknel* manufactory."

* In a town where "manufactories" are so uncommon, the board which presents the above inscription has sometimes proved inexplicable to the stranger. It may therefore be proper to observe that the "cracknel" is a kind of *biscuit*, in the preparation of which a lengthened process is required, and for which the Island is celebrated. It is sweeter, and perhaps, not much less digestible than the famous Abernethyan biscuit itself. The admirers of the *taste* of the good King George the Third, will perhaps like them the better because he is said to have received a box of them annually from the Island.

Some would impart to them a higher kind of interest, as being the identical kind of cake mentioned in one of the older books of the Holy Scriptures, (see 1 Kings, xiv. 3.) but the celebrated Mr. Harmer has shewn that those were *cakes* or *biscuits*

Entering the Parade from the Bath Road, the visitor after passing the pavilion at the right corner, will arrive at a villa, on the left, which, a few years since, was the property of his most gracious Majesty, George the Fourth of England. It is now owned by George Henry Ward, Esq. of Northwood House, and occupied by the Right Honourable Lord Listowell. The adjoining mansion, of warlike aspect, is the land rendezvous of the members of the Royal Yacht Club. The noblemen and gentlemen of the club, attired in nautical costume, with the button of their order, and attended to the shore by their own boats' crews, present a spectacle only to be witnessed in this delightful spot. The poles, flag-staffs, and semaphore, are for the display of ensigns, which with the balls are also used for signals of communication between the gentlemen on shore, and their vessels, riding, laying to, or sailing in the roads.

The small sentry box at the left entrance is the cabin of the man who directs the signals from the

strewn and therefore *spotted* with seeds, as of Sesamon, Roman Coriander, &c. such as he proves are usual in the East to this day. The curious reader may consult Harmer's *Observations*, vol. 1 p. 244; Parkhurst's *Hebrew Lexicon*, or Leigh's *Critica Sacra*.

It is perhaps fair, after noticing this particular shop, to observe, that there are several others of the same kind in the High Street. Indeed, almost every baker and confectioner of the neighbourhood supplies this article.

shore, and observes those of the yachts. The guns are fired for salutes on particular occasions. The grounds and cottage of A. Corbett, Esq. separate the Club House from the gothic Villa of Sir John Hippisley, Bart. which is the next object on the Parade. The winding ascent to the Castle Hill, and to the cottage promenade, only further intervenes before the eye rests on the Castle and its venerable elms. This edifice, the fort and *part* of the building of which, was raised by command of Henry VIII. for the defence of the harbour, in 1540, now presents an object of beauty rather than of terror. Considerable sums are expending in the enlargement of its grounds, the increase of its accommodations, and the improvement of its aspect. The fort is still capable of considerable execution on the harbour and roads, but these peaceable times, happily permit the employment of castle grounds for the purposes of recreation. May they soon be followed by the period, when "they shall beat their swords into plough-shares, and their spears into pruning-hooks."

The best spot for observing the surrounding scenery is at the corner of the Quay, immediately before the late villa of the Sovereign, and the visitor will commit no treason in turning for a while from that object which his King has quitted, we fear for ever.

A fine expanse of water is presented to the eye in a view from this spot, and as the sea never recedes to a greater distance than a few yards, the watery sur-

face is only varied by the influence of the wind and weather, and the greater or smaller number of vessels in the offing. Ships of all nations, here in time of peace proclaim by their ensigns the advantages of commerce, the wonderful powers of the compass, and the all but boundless skill of man when under the protection of his Maker. Pilot boats, passage vessels, steam packets, revenue cruisers, row boats, and, above all, the graceful evolutions of the yachts, add to the attractions of the scene.

A more truly national and superb spectacle than is presented from this spot at the time of the annual regatta, can scarcely be obtained in any part of Britain. At that season the royal yachts frequently honor the club by their attendance; a man-of-war or two, is likewise ordered to be here for the occasion; Lord Yarborough, in the *Falcon*, as commodore, hoists the standard of the club; the miniature frigate of the Earl of Belfast, as vice-commodore, attends; the brig, schooner, and cutter yachts of all dimensions, are dressed (as it is termed) in the various colours and signals of the R. Y. C.; the steam packets, with numerous private yachts, and almost countless boats, from the ornamented canoe to the man of war's launch, are passing in every direction: while the peculiar character of the scenery presents the whole in so conveniently bounded a circumference as adds material beauty to this grand naval spectacle. It is also arranged that the pilot boats should at this time re-

new their annual licences, and for this purpose they pass according to their numbers, in graceful review, first around the buoys in the Solent, and afterwards immediately before the Commissioners at the Custom House, at East Cowes. The hardy fellows, after beating about in the British Channel for the previous winter usually make this a day when the "old woman, and the little ones" shall enjoy the treat of a safe and pleasant sail in "father's own vessel;" and as some of their friends usually partake of the pleasures of this excursion, the whole affair, though really of a business-like intention, bears an aspect of considerable hilarity. The well-disposed visitor will, however, allow that amidst the festivities of the season, these good seamen and their families, should not be forgetful of their obligations to that Providence, which has

"Kept watch for the life of poor Jack,"

amidst the numerous perils of the pilot's life.

Besides the prizes formerly sailed for by the yachts, for the encouragement of naval architecture, and to patronize an institution which in these peaceful times employs not less than a thousand British seamen, it has been deemed expedient to bestow an annual prize from the royal coffers, and in the evening of the day on which "the King's cup" is sailed for, a very splendid display of marine and other fireworks is presented on the Solent and its shores. A finer situation for this kind of spectacle can hardly be conceived.

On the distant shores, the first object that meets the eye to the westward is the turret of Luttrell's Folly, or Eaglehurst, now the property of the Earl of Cavan. Calshot Castle, (another erection of Henry VIII. and about at the same time with that of West Cowes) appears at the entrance of Southampton waters, Hamble Church presents itself in the distance to the left of Calshot, and Sir Joseph Yorke's villa, at about an equal distance to the right. The low cliffs opposite the Parade, are connected with Hell Haven, at a short distance from which is the entrance to Titchfield. Stokes Bay with the new erections at Anglesea Ville lie farther to the East. The naval hospital at Hazlar, with some of the spires and masts in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth, may usually be seen, while the range of hills behind presents no uninteresting back ground. On one of these hills the monument of the gallant Nelson may be seen in fine weather, and will long remain a monument of his country's gratitude. "England expects every man to do his duty", but will also allow him to expect that his grateful countrymen will do him honor for his exertions. Spithead, and the Motherbank now appear to the right, and the eye at last rests once more on England's garden, and on one of its most favoured nooks, the northern extremity of the Eastern Cowes. Its green copses reaching to the very water's edge, some erections of the late Lord Henry Seymour, with the Villas of Messrs. Shedden, and Sir George Thomas, and the

Hotel at East Cowes, now occupy the eye till it glances on some storehouses, which in the lower department close the distant view. No spectator will however overlook the apparently antiquated though really modern erection of John Nash, Esq. at the Eastern Cowes. It gives a kind of character to the whole scenery, and has been considered the glory of the place. It would we think, be an act of injustice to close this sketch without a notice of the Marine Hotel, "though last not least" of the comely objects visible from this spot. It is situated at the eastern extremity of the Parade, and therefore, of course, commands the views we have attempted to describe. This house, which from its exquisite situation would ensure patronage as a mere private lodging house,* has been repeatedly enlarged by Mr. Helmore, who first employed it for its present purpose, and still continues its proprietor.

The "guide" will now withdraw, but he might shew his reader many a smaller act of civility than by leaving him in the neighbourhood of the Marine Parade, at Cowes.

STROLL BY THE SHORE TO GURNARD'S BAY.

Leaving the Parade, by the castle walk, we proceed directly under the fort, but in perfect safety from the eight nine-pounders over head. Hamlet's

* There are several lodging-houses in the neighbourhood of the Parade.

cottages, the baths, Lord Grantham's villa, the West-Cliff cottages, the rope-walk, and the open strand are passed before we reach Egypt, the northern point of the Island. Here is a fine building, of gothic character, and well adapted to the site on which it stands ; it is the property of Sir Thomas Tancred, Bart. but during the long absence of the family it has been occupied by a succession of respectable visitors. Why the particular name of "Egypt" has been given to this spot, the conductor cannot explain. It is certain, however, that this is not "the land of the Copts," nor "the land of blackness," as that ancient name imports. It has indeed a kind of "Mediterranean sea" on its north, but no "Abyssinia" on the south, no "Lybian deserts" to the west, or "Red Sea" on the east. It is not known that the mansion ever proved a "house of bondage" to any of its inhabitants, and, though a lime kiln may be found a little further to the west, it is not said that a single "brick" was ever made or burnt upon the spot.

There is now, also, a good road to Egypt House, but a few yards distance from the shore, and less inconvenient to those who wish the refreshments of the sea-breeze *without* the fatigue of walking on the beach. By this road, the visitor leaving the castle, the baths, the smaller cottages, and Lord Grantham's on the right, will pass Trafalgar House, with the newly erected villa of the late — Halliday, Esq. (now

occupied by his Grace, the Duke of Norfolk,) and immediately before the beautiful cottages, on the west cliff promenade. The latter are the property of Mrs. Goodwin, who has lately opened the new road near the rope-walk for the public accommodation. As the land adjoining this road is now first offered on building leases, the public and the proprietor will probably share the benefits resulting from this increased convenience. A convenience it certainly is, as it not only renders the "land of Egypt" accessible from the Parade, at any time of tide, but affords a considerably greater length of level walk, which was much to be desired for invalids.

When the tide is receding, or if it be not long after low water, Gurnard's Bay may be reached by the beach, but at high water there is sometimes difficulty in proceeding, from the occasionally quaggy character of the lower parts of the cliff. There are shells on the shore, but they are generally small. At certain seasons, however, here is a very beautiful variety of sea weeds. When neatly spread on paper, (which is easily performed by allowing them to float in a basin of water, with the paper beneath them) they present their beauties with increased advantage and will retain their finely varied tints for years.

Gurnard's Bay, once skirted by a considerable town, and afterwards celebrated as the landing place of Charles II. on his visit to the Island, now presents no other buildings than a cottage or two, with a lime-

kiln, and the bridge. There are sometimes two or three small vessels in the bay, but we have visited this place when we could find no other inhabitants than a few small crabs. "Sic transit gloria mundi." The lover of solitude will probably enjoy this spot.

Rue Street, a few yards beyond the bridge, is said, but not on very high authority, to have formed part of an ancient Roman road; and we have already mentioned the tradition that here was once a causeway across to the opposite coast.

The views here include some of those already seen on the parade, with a nearer aspect of Calshot, Eaglehurst, and the New Forest. The buildings gleaming on the opposite shores are the habitations of preventive officers on the Leap station.

There are several pleasant modes of return from Gurnard's Bay, which may be varied according to the pedestrian powers of the visitor.* By Rue Street and Pallance Lane to the Newport upper road, and

*"It has been said, that if only some of the many advantages resulting from exercise, were to be procured by any one medicine, nothing in the world would be in more esteem, and more anxiously sought after."—"There is no exercise so natural to us, or in every respect so conducive to health, as walking. The most proper time for walking, and indeed for all exercise, is between breakfast and dinner, and it should then be continued for two or three hours, supposing we rest for a few minutes in that period, so as not to become over fatigued."—"It has been laid down as a rule, that *riding is the best exercise for regaining health, walking for retaining*

home, the whole walk will include six miles ; by the farm on the east of Gurnard's Bay to the Newport upper road and home, about five miles ; the return by the beach, or through the fields by the turnpike to Cowes, (turning in this case through the gate opposite the farm yard,) will include the whole ramble in about four miles.

THE DEBOURNE WALK.

Leaving the town by the new road*, and keeping the walls of Northwood Park, (the seat of G. H. Ward, Esq.) on the left, the visitor will need no other "guide" to conduct to a walk which for fine views, and varied character, is rather commonly thought to be the best on this side of the Island. The aged inhabitants, indeed, tell of the "good old times" when there was no stone wall to impart a stiffness to the scene on either hand, but we observe that, as the plantations proceed in their growth, this partial

it, and I think it a very good one. This rule does not, however, prohibit the invalid from walking daily, but only inculcates that, to him, horse exercise is preferable in the beginning, as a chief mode of exercising the body." Dr. Graham's modern Domestic Medicine.

* This road was given, in 1825, by the late George Ward, Esq. in exchange for some previously public ways which interfered with his grounds.

stiffness is decreasing, and there is yet abundantly enough remaining to render this a walk which will bear repetition as frequently as any with which we are acquainted. The improvement also affords a good road for the approach and departure of carriages from the town, which was much needed from the confined character of the main street.

In the progress of the walk, the following objects will invite attention ; after passing some respectable lodging houses, and the modest cottage ornee of Mrs. Wilding, the Solent Sea, the harbour, the vessels, and the distant scenery, much softened by the sylvan vistæ, through which they are beheld ; a fine opening with marine views at the top of castle hill *; the scenery from the snug seat in the wall on what is termed "the founder ;" Egypt House ; Calshot Castle ; Southampton waters ; Eaglehurst ; Portsmouth, and its neighbourhood ; the Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Sussex Hills ; the New Forest ; Beaulieu river ; the preventive establishment ; Lymington river ; Hurst Castle ; Christchurch Bay ; the Isle of Purbeck ; the Needles ; Freshwater, Brixton, and Afton downs ; Dottens and Debourne farms ; the entrance to Wood Vale ; the rustic turnpike ; the Lodges of G. H. Ward, Esq. ; the Mills ; Moor Green House ; East Cowes Castle ; some distant portions of

* If there be a temperate spot in Cowes it should be between this place and the founder seat ; there is a *summer* house on one side of the road, and an *ice* house on the other.

the East Medina division of the Island ; the River ; the Solent again ; Spithead ; Southsea, with the spires, masts, observatory, &c. in the greatest naval establishment of the empire. It may be well, occasionally to vary this walk by leaving the town at Union Place, and proceeding in the reverse rout, as the points of observation are materially varied by the change. The distance round is about two miles.

THE MILL WALK.

There is a short walk with some fine views in the southern direction from the town. Leaving the High Street, by Shooter's Hill, and winding round the walls of West Hill Cottage and Grounds, the seat of the Misses Ward ; then passing through the gate immediately facing the hill, we enter the lane which leads to Mill Hill House, the residence of Mrs. Admiral Osborne. Immediately by the side of this house, and at the entrance of the pathway leading to Grove Cottage (Capt. Cannon,) there is as commanding a view of the town and harbour, as can be obtained in any part of the terra firma of the neighbourhood. The path-way afterwards winds by the mill, to the Newport lower road upon the left. If a longer stroll be desirable, it may be taken towards Northwood Church, or by any of the cross ways, after reaching the turnpike road ; but the descent into

Cowes, from this part of the Newport road, is of a very pleasing character. It presents a lovely scene, comprising the eastern Cowes, the harbour and roadstead, parts of the Hampshire Coast, the windings of the Medina, &c. and to those who have taken the previous walks will justify the observation already quoted. "It is but changing ones position, for which one quarter of an hours riding [walking] is sufficient, and the whole scenery is cast into a new form. It is varied by so many new lines it no longer appears to be the same thing."

NORTHWOOD CHURCH.

The parish church of West Cowes is about two miles and a half distant from the town, and is supposed to have received its name from the former abundance of wood-land in the neighbourhood. It is, however, no longer so remarkably distinguished as to deserve its appellation on that particular account. The rectory is regarded as an appendage to the vicarage of Carisbrooke, and included in the presentation. It is now held by the Rev. John Brecks, A.M.

Northwood Church is in the direction of the last walk, and about three hundred yards from a part of the main road to Newport. The parsonage is on the west side of the road, at a short distance from the Horse Shoe; nearly opposite which is a lane leading

by a farm yard to the Church. Some of the common people have given to this lane the unhappy designation of "the road to ruin,"—a sly and often an ill-deserved sarcasm on the woes which many of them suppose they have endured, since their memorable visit by this lane to the church, for matrimonial purposes. A passage across the fields, northward, will conduct again to the main road; and soon introduce to scenes with which the reader is probably already familiar.

EAST COWES.

The visitor will not have remained long at West Cowes before the interesting aspect of its eastern neighbour will have excited some attention. At the regular ferry, one half-penny is the entire *demand* for the passage of each person, although it is common for respectable persons to give a larger sum. It is amusing, that, in one case, this ferry should have elicited profound wonder, after the failure of excitement in any other object of the Island. The natives had no little occasion to admire their own "march of intellect," when one of England's true sons, from an inland county, was wrapt in admiration of the wonderful contrivance which could transport a wagon, wheels, burden, horses, harness and all, in perfect safety over the flowing tide. The

individual referred to, had gazed without emotion on the rugged points of the Needles, the reflected rainbow from the western sands, the stupendous cliffs to the south, the rudeness of Blackgang, the peculiarities of the Undercliff, and the milder beauties of Shanklin. He could betray his callousness amidst those scenes, by a single whistle ; but this ferry overcame him :

“ ’Twas strange, ’twas passing strange, ’twas wonderful.”

So true it is that the interest excited by any object, depends on the kind of eyes with which it is seen, as much as upon its own intrinsic character.

Near the ferry, in Mr. Thomas White’s Ship Yard,* is the Thetis Dock, which is said to be the finest private convenience of this kind in the British Channel. It is capable of containing a vessel of from 500 to 600 tons burthen, and drawing from ten to fifteen feet water. The river itself is indeed admirably adapted for the reception of shipping, a circumstance which was sufficiently illustrated in the severe winters of 1829-30, when more than thirty sail of square rigged vessels, of different nations, were riding in perfect safety, and repaired here during the greatest inclemencies of the season.

The beautiful hamlet of East Cowes has been lately rising in importance, and with some rapidity. Be-

* There are several smaller yards skirting the western side of the river, most of which have supplied some favourite vessels in the Royal Yacht Club.

sides its extensive and well situated Hotel,* (Mr. Blundell's) it has now convenient baths, and some respectable lodging houses. This place is a lovely appendage to the neighbouring watering place, and materially aids in supplying that variety of walks, which the town inclosed on two of its sides by the water, must otherwise have wanted. Like West Cowes, indeed, its *neighbourhood* is much more pleasing than the sites on which the houses stand; but the builders in both places seem to have conceived that by compressing *towns*, they left more room in the *country*. The hamlet now contains about eight hundred inhabitants, having trebled in number since 1790. The parish Church is at Whippingham, about two miles distance. The Independents or Congregationalists, have lately erected a neat and commodious chapel here, of which the Rev. S. Barrows is the minister. The probable erection of a new church has also lately been rumoured. The Custom House for the whole Island is situated a few yards from the landing place at the ferry; and there are some building yards, particularly Mr. Joseph White's, principally remarkable for having furnished a few of the fastest vessels in the Royal Yacht Club.

The reader is referred to the following as the more agreeable walks afforded in this neighbourhood.

* We have omitted to state, that boats from East Cowes, as well as from the Marine Hotel, and the Vine at West Cowes, commonly attend the Steam Packet on its arrival.

STROLL BY THE SHORE* TO NORRIS PIER, AND RETURN BY THE CASTLE GROUNDS.

In this walk we pass the Custom-house, the Hotel, the public Baths, the East Cowes Parade, the Grove, the garden of — Shedden, Esq. the Rope Walk, the Boat Houses, Old Castle Point†, the Coppice, Norris Castle Bathing House, and the Walls, to the Pier. The walls just mentioned were built, at vast expence, by the late owner, and have so far well sustained the conflicting assaults of the waves on the one hand, and the land springs on the other. From the pier a winding ascent conducts first to the fine stabling of the Castle,—which might naturally be mistaken for more honoured premises,—and afterwards by the turning to the right, to the Castle itself. This finely situated building, is more modern than would be generally concluded from its aspect. It was erected by the late Lord Henry Seymour, under the direction of Mr. Wyatt, (now Sir J. Wyatville.)

* This, like the Gurnard Bay excursion, should be taken at the time of a receding tide ; or at least when it is not near the time of high water ; as the visitor may otherwise be in danger of inconveniences from which there would be no escape, except by the climbing of the wall on some parts of the beach. As far as the commencement of the wall, the walk is however more pleasant when the tide is up, the shrape being then covered. Norris Castle can be *always* reached by the agreeable public road.

† Off this spot there was a castle erected at the same time, and for the same purpose as that now remaining at West Cowes. Not a vestige of the East Cowes erection is now standing ; but the point of land here is still called “Old Castle Point,” and the buoy in the Solent bears that inscription.

It is so situated as to afford commanding views of the scenery from the New Forest, and Southampton Waters, to Portsmouth, Southsea, and the open Channel ;—of course including all the excitements to that kind of enthusiasm, which the distinguished rendezvous of the *navy*, must naturally inspire. Here the gallant fleets of England have rode from age to age, still triumphing upon the briny waves because still protected by that Power which regulates the destiny of nations. Within sight of this interesting spot, the courageous defenders of our nation have often passed to earn those laurels which the naval skill of our country has borne away from an envious and opposing world.

To those who have visited these grounds previous to the decease of their late benevolent proprietor, and particularly within the last few years, they will retain a melancholy interest from the remembrance of that fine venerable form, which was lately seen, in humble guise but dignified in aspect, gliding around the precincts of the castle. Lord Henry Seymour seemed, to the last, to take a generous interest in the gratification of the visitors to his domain.

Returning from the castle, by the lovely Swiss Cottage of Mr. Lambert, and afterwards along the public road, which affords some pretty points of observation, we reach East Cowes, after strolling, in the whole, something more than two miles from the ferry.

EAST COWES CASTLE.

Another favorite walk at East Cowes, is round the castle and grounds of John Nash, Esq. The imposing aspect of the erection will doubtless have excited the visitor's attention, from the first arrival in the harbour. The best ascent is from the northern extremity of the parade, the distance but half a mile from the ferry point. The Villas of Messrs. Shedden and Sir George Thomas, are passed on the left, that of J. Auldjo, Esq. on the right. Reaching the rustic lodge at the entrance of the castle grounds, the elegant Swiss cottage on the other side will be regarded as a beautiful object. The castle, when the owner is resident, can only be seen at particular seasons. A flag is hoisted when the family is here.

The building is considered to be in all respects worthy of the distinguished architect by whom it has been erected, and inhabited. If it have derived some advantages from its fine situation, it returns the borrowed graces by its ornamental effect on the surrounding neighbourhood. Such an erection ought to stand on such a site, and such a site, could not, as we suppose, have been so much adorned by any other style of building.

The return is by a public and rather commodious pathway through the fields; but if the castle grounds be quitted by the same gate at which they are represented to have been entered, we first saunter round

the eastern boundaries of the estate, leaving the Swiss cottage, some small tenements, Norris farm, and the park gate of Osborne, or Austerbourne, upon the left. Osborne, is the extensive seat of the Blachford family, but has for some time been occupied by Charles Lambert, Esq. A few yards beyond the entrance to the fields is Osborne Cottage, occupied by the lady of the late General Burton. It commands good views and is tastefully arranged. The extensive dining room is curiously adorned with illustrations of Don Quixote, occupying the whole of the walls on every hand. Fine views of the Castle, its conservatories and grounds, West Cowes, the Medina, the harbour, and distant scenery, (including Carisbrooke Castle,) are opened from the fields. On a calm summer's evening this is an enchanting walk, and the whole excursion does not exceed two miles from the High Street at West Cowes.

WHIPPINGHAM CHURCH.

The parish Church about two miles distant from East Cowes, is worthy of a visit. The building indeed has few architectural attractions, except the extreme simplicity of its character, but there is a neat parsonage adjoining; and the lane by which both are reached offers some scenery of a *very* picturesque description. The parsonage is occupied by the Rev. J. Ward, A.M. The return may be varied by the

lane leading eastward from the church to the main road from East Cowes to Newport and Ryde. Between the junction of the roads, and the Whippingham turnpike, at a short distance to the right, is Barton, now a farm house, but formerly a convent or oratory of friars, of the order of St. Augustine; it was founded in the year 1282, and granted to the college of Winchester in 1439.

A further variety of walks may be found in the neighbourhood, on both sides of the water, but as they generally extend to a greater length, we forbear enumeration. Those who have time for exploratory expeditions can inquire for Medhurst, Furzyhurst, Tinker's Lane, the Preserves, Wood Vale, the beach *beyond* Gurnard's Bay, pathways from Debourne to the Mill and to the Horse Shoe, at West Cowes; and for the fisherman's hut, Barton Priory, the money Coppice, Norris Farm, the Folly—byland, Brock's Copse, King John's Quay, Padmore, Botany Bay Mill, &c. at East Cowes.

As we have not mentioned either of the libraries, this may be a proper place to add that Mr. Moir, and Mr. J. Pinhorn, each afford this source of amusement. The former has also a reading room, in which the London papers, and other publications are amply provided in the season. These shops in the High Street of Cowes, present also as many and as varied *views of the Island scenery*, as can be obtained in any spot within its circumference.

CHAPTER IV.

THE FIRST DAY'S TOUR,

*Including Newport, Shanklin, Bonchurch,
Appuldurcombe, &c.*

	MILES
To Newport.....	5
Arreton.....	4
Shanklin.....	6
Bonchurch.....	4
Ventnor.....	1
Wroxall.....	2
Appuldurcombe.....	2
Godshill.....	1
Pidford.....	3
Standen.....	1½
Shide.....	1
Newport.....	½
Cowes.....	5

OBSERVATIONS.

The upper road, by Northwood Park, will afford the best views of the Solent Sea, and distant scenery; the lower and more common road, by West Hill, gives a fine command of the Medina River, and the inland scenes of the Island itself. The roads however meet at the Horse Shoe, about two miles from the town.

Beyond the Horse Shoe on the right is Furzyhurst, and the Vicarage; on the left Northwood, the parish church of Cowes, and near it the site of an old religious house, formerly occupied by the brothers and sisters of the order of St. John the Baptist.

At Parkhurst Forest, (formerly more like a forest than it is now,) on descending the hill, West Medina and Botany Bay mills are on the left, the inclosure on the right is the soldiers burying ground. The low buildings in the vale, right of the bridge, were formerly employed as an orphan school for soldiers' children.

The next erections constitute the hospital of the barracks. They contain four large, and sixteen small wards, fitted with iron bedsteads, and every necessary accommodation. The barracks for private soldiers, comprising twenty buildings, are next passed; then the officers' houses, the parade, the chapel, and offices; after which, the commandant's establishment occupies the space on the right, as far as the Yarmouth road, branching to the west. Albany

Barracks, though formerly considered of great importance,—first for foreign troops, and afterwards as well situated to prevent the desertion of those which were intended for that service, has been almost unoccupied for some years. It is painful to consider how many brave fellows have been drafted from this spot to lay their bodies in foreign lands. Of one regiment, which left some years ago, only three survivors are said to have returned. When war is not unavoidable, how much blood must its wanton abettors have to account for!

On the left, beyond the barracks, is a building of different character, and for different objects; it is the “House of Industry,” or poor house for the whole Island. As the last resource of honest poverty, (we wish it were *always* undeserved poverty,) this is no mean abode. It will contain 1000 persons, and is frequently occupied by eight or nine hundreds: these are generally employed in the manufactory of their own attire, or on the grounds of the establishment, and on the neighbouring roads. The institution has done much good; and we know of no harm that has occurred from this concentration of effort for the poor, except what has been mentioned on page 56;—an incidental evil which we hope the governors and guardians of the poor will one day have benevolence enough to obviate, without the necessity of separate contributions. It is fair, however, to add that a small remuneration has at length been voted for the *attendance* of the medical men on the poor of Cowes.

We enter Newport by the bridge at the foot of Hunny Hill; leaving St. Cross, (once a cell to a French abbey, afterwards an hospital, and now the residence of Joseph Kirkpatrick, Esq.) on the left; and the seat of Lady Holmes on the right.

NEWPORT,

The capital of the Island, is a borough town, governed by a mayor, aldermen, burgesses, and a recorder. It sends two members to parliament. It is neatly built, has a good market, and is ornamented by several fine public erections. The Town-hall, and the "Institution," both erected by John Nash, Esq. are the most remarkable. Here, as befits the capital, the principal courts of the Island are held. Besides the borough court, and the court of requests, there is a remnant of the feudal times in the *curia miiltum*, Knighton court, or knight's court, in which the gentlemen who hold "a knight's fee from the lord of the Island," decide in certain cases, *without jury*. The jurisdiction of this court extends to the whole of the Wight, in those cases which come within its cognizance. Not less becoming the capital of the Isle of Wight, are several public establishments here. The library and reading rooms, supported by the principal nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood; the society for studying the natural history of the Island; the philosophical society; Bell's and Lancaster's schools; the grammar school; the mechanic's institution; the Vectis reading society; &c. &c. confer great honor on the town.

The *church*,—which contains some curious remnants of antiquity, the handsome monument of Sir Edward Horsey, and a simple memorial of Elizabeth, the second daughter of the unfortunate Charles I.—was erected in the time of Henry II, and dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, the popular saint of that day. The curfew is still tolled here.

The Roman Catholics have here, a fine chapel, the Independents two meeting houses, the Baptists, the Wesleyans, and the Unitarians have each one. A monument has lately been erected in the Node Hill chapel, in memory of the Rev, Daniel Tyerman, many years a much respected inhabitant of this town. He resigned his ministerial duties in this place, to undertake an extensive tour as an inspector of the stations occupied by the London Missionary Society, and after visiting the South Seas, New Zealand, China, the Mauritius, &c. died at Madagascar; just after exclaiming “the Covenant of Grace.” Alluding to this circumstance J. Montgomery, Esq. has supplied some interesting lines for the tablet.

The principal trade of Newport is derived from its market, the expenditure of the neighbouring gentry, the mills and the lace manufactory in the vicinity, with the supply of Albany Barracks. The Medina is navigable to the town, and allows the approach of vessels of considerable burden.

We leave Newport by Node Hill, obtaining on the ascent a good view of Carisbrooke Castle; and after

passing Shide, circuit the borders of St. George's Down, (horsemen may cross the down and obtain fine views,) to the village of *Arreton*. This place owes most of its celebrity to the elegant pen of the Rev. Legh Richmond. The "Dairyman's Daughter" died in a cottage, about one mile further on the road, and her remains lie at the north corner of the church yard. A handsome monument has lately been erected here, in memory of Sir L. W. Holmes, whose portrait adorns the town-hall of Newport.

The *Culver Cliffs*, and *Sandown Bay*, are finely presented from some parts of the succeeding road; and we at length pass near Sandown Fort, and the cottage of the celebrated Wilkes of political notoriety.

The village of *Shanklin* is principally remarkable for its chine. Many learned suggestions have been offered, on the name by which this and other chasms in the cliffs of the Island, have been commonly designated; the result of them all is that *chine* just signifies the thing to which the term is here applied—"a high ridge of land cleft abruptly down."*

Appending† a description of Shanklin chine, by a master spirit in this style of writing; we need only

* See Albin's *larger* work—an octavo volume scarcely, if at all, inferior to Sir R. Worsley's quarto.

† In the widely sweeping curve of a beautiful bay, there is a kind of chasm or opening in one of the lofty cliffs which bound it,

mention a few additional particulars. It is common to bespeak refreshments at the inn *before* the visit to the chine, that they may be in readiness by the traveller's return ; there are shells on the shore of most exquisite

This produces a very romantic and striking effect. The steep-descending sides of this opening in the cliff are covered with trees, bushes, wild flowers, fern, wormwood, and many other herbs, here and there contrasted with bold masses of rock or brown earth.

In the higher and middle parts of one of these declivities, two or three picturesque cottages are fixed, and seem half suspended in the air.

From the upper extremity of this great chine or opening in the cliff a small stream of water enters by a cascade, flows through the bottom, winding in a varied course of about a quarter of a mile in length ; and then runs into the sea across a smooth expanse of firm hard sand, at the lower extremity of the chasm. At this point, the sides of the woody banks are very lofty, and to a spectator from the bottom, exhibit a mixture of the grand and beautiful not often exceeded.

Near the mouth of this opening was a little hollow recess, or cave, in the cliff, from whence, on one hand, I could see the above-described romantic scene ; on the other, a long train of perpendicular cliffs, terminating in a bold and wild-shaped promontory, which closed the bay at one end, while a conspicuous white cliff stood directly opposite, about four miles distant, at the farther point of the bay.

The shore between the different cliffs and the edge of the waves, was in some parts covered with stone and shingle, in some with firm sand, and in others with irregular heaps of little rocks fringed with sea-weed and ornamented with small yellow shells.

The cliffs themselves were diversified with strata of various coloured earths, black, yellow, brown, and orange. The effects

construction, but so minute as almost to require the aid of glasses to distinguish them from the scum of the sea; a chalybeate spring oozes from the rocks near the middle of the chine; and the poor fisherman, who makes the steps, expects a trifle for his pains. Some visitors will probably wish there were no cab-

of iron ore producing very manifest changes of hue, were every where seen in trickling drops and streamlets down the sides.

The huts in which the fishermen kept their baskets, nets, boats, and other implements, occupied a few retired spots on the shore.

The open sea, in full magnificence, filled the centre of the prospect; bounded, indeed, in one small part, by a very distant shore, on the rising ascent from which the rays of the sun rendered visible a cathedral church, with its towering spire, at above twenty miles distance. Every where else, the sea beyond was limited only by the sky.

A frigate was standing into the bay, not very far from my recess; other vessels, of every size, sailing in many directions, varied the scene, and furnished matter for a thousand sources of contemplation.

At my feet the little rivulet, gently rippling over pebbles, soon mingled with the sand, and was lost in the waters of the mighty ocean. The murmuring of the waves, as the tide ebbed or flowed on the sand; their dashing against some more distant rocks, which were covered fantastically with sea-weed and shells; sea-birds floating in the air aloft, or occasionally screaming from their holes in the cliffs; the hum of human voices in the ships and boats, borne along the water: all these served to promote, rather than interrupt meditation. They were soothingly blended together, and entered the ear in a kind of natural harmony.

The Young Cottager, by Rev. Legh Richmond.

gages in the chine, they scarcely accord with the beautiful wildness of the scene, but whether the *taste* of the stranger, or that of the cottagers, should most be consulted here, we are not sufficiently skilled in casuistry to determine.

Those who can walk rather more than two miles, will be well repaid by the extremely fine views of rock scenery, presented on the foot-way from Shanklin, by Luccombe and East End, to Bonchurch church. The carriage road conducts around Luccombe chine by a winding ascent to a considerable elevation on St. Boniface down. The road has lately been much improved, and as the safety of the ride has thereby been promoted, it is certainly an accommodation; but, we confess ourselves jealous of *improvements* here. Hitherto, all has been pretty well, but the Islanders should ever remember that Nature's own works constitute the charm of the neighbourhood; and every attempt beyond the effort to promote the safety of the visitor, or the reasonable facility of access to remarkable scenery, will just spoil what it may be intended to ornament. If we might speak in hyperbole, we should express a hope that no man will ever attempt to paint and paper the Undercliff.

Bonchurch, from the flagstaff, is indescribably beautiful; it must be seen to be justly appreciated, but as the stranger, in making choice of a ride, will probably wish to form a previous idea of what can be seen in any given route, we endeavour to sketch the

materials essential to a proper model of this enchanting spot. Take of barren rocks, and prolific earths; elevated cliffs, broken masses, and precipitous descents; an expanded sea, a winding rivulet, and a miniature fen; uncultivated wastes and fruitful patches; the wild flower dell, and the rich parterre; the peasant's hut, the farmer's yard, and the adorned villa; freely use the curve, the slope, the angle, the perpendicular, the horizontal, the — every thing; employ the colours of the bow of heaven; let the motions of animated nature be within the reach of observation; cover the whole with an expanded arch; light it with one of creation's brightest luminaries; mingle and adjust with the elegance of taste, and the apparent carelessness of nature; place a raised rock with a flagstaff, in the finest site for observation; and call it *Bonchurch*.

The spring of water here is said to have been formerly held in much estimation by sailors, among whom there was a custom of lowering their topmasts as they passed, in honor of St. Boniface, the patron saint. The rude cross on the summit of the cliffs is said to have some connexion with this custom. J. H. Sarmon, Esq.; Joseph Hadfield, Esq., and the Rector, have beautiful cottages here. The Undermount cottage is let to visitors.

St. Boniface Cottage, at the foot of the down, is the property of C. P. Hill, Esq.; it is open to fine

scenery. After passing this we soon reach *Ventnor*, where there are two inns for the accommodation of visitors. The first, the "Crab and Lobster," is very small, in appearance, indeed, only a village public house, but it is finely situated; at a short distance is the "New Inn," a considerable building lately erected, on the removal of the license from Groves's Hotel. The cove, the mill, and the hamlet may be easily visited on foot.

Ascending *Steephill*, on the return, we pass Wroxall towards Appuldurcombe, the seat of the Right Honourable Lord Yarborough. Cook's Castle, the Ionic Gateway to the park, the Obelisk erected to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley, and the mansion of *Appuldurcombe* are the principal adjacent objects in the ride. The house is remarkable for its architectural elegance, with the paintings, busts, and antiques collected by Sir Richard Worsley, the historian already mentioned. The grounds are finely situated and sufficiently wooded, well stocked with deer, and contain some elevations from which communications are made, by signal, with his lordship's yacht in the Cowes roads. This is the principal seat in the Isle of Wight. To inspect the interior of the mansion and the elegant museum which it contains, it is previously necessary to obtain tickets of Thomas Sewell, Esq. at Newport.

Godskill has a fine church, with some elegant monuments, particularly of Sir. Robert Worsley,

and his brother Henry. A legendary tradition curiously states that, on the attempt to erect the building on another and a lower site, the materials were so often supernaturally removed to this spot by night, that the builders were at length obliged to yield; they therefore placed the erection in its present situation, and adopted the name by which it is distinguished! Here is an excellent school room for the education of the poor, principally supported, we believe, by the Right Honourable Lord Yarborough.

Gatcombe House, the seat of A. Campbell, Esq. is afterwards seen on the left; Pidford House, the seat of Lady Holmes, and Standen, the residence of E. Roberts, Esq. are the only other remarkable objects, till we reach Newport on the return by the route already described.

SECOND TOUR,

*Including Carisbrooke Castle, St. Catherine's
Hill, Blackgang Chine, Sandrock Spring, the
Undercliff, Steephill, &c.*

	MILES.
To Carisbrooke Castle.....	6
Gatcombe.....	2
Chillerton Farm.....	1
Billingham.....	1
Chale Church.....	4
Niton.....	1½
St. Lawrence.....	2
Steephill.....	1
Cowes.....	14

32½

After paying due honors to the capital, we proceed by New Village towards Carisbrooke. The latter place has many charms. Here is an antique church, which is said to have been partly standing before the conquest; its lofty gothic tower is supposed to be of a little later date. The site of an ancient convent of cistercian monks, on which a farm house called the Priory now stands, and a few old monuments in the church, will interest the antiquary. The neat cottages, the limpid stream which waters the village, and the neighbouring scenery in general, may attract the notice of other observers. But the principal object of attention here is the fine ruin of an ancient castle; and the traveller in this ride will probably only see the village from the sides and summit of the hill on which the ruin stands.

The *walls* of Carisbrooke castle form an imperfect parallelogram. They are entered on the west side, over a bridge, in a curtain, between two bastions, by a handsome machiolated gate, with two round towers, said to have been erected by Lord Woodville. The old door remains, and is entered by a wicket. The grooves of the portcullis are tolerably perfect.

The *Chapel*, dedicated to St. Nicholas, bears the inscription "G. II. 1738," and on the eastern side is a stone tablet mentioning its repair under the government of Lord Lymington. It is now only used when the Mayor of Newport, annually, takes the oaths

before the deputy governor of the Island. There is a cemetery attached, but this also has been long unused.

The *windows* in the ruins to the left, may be reached by the stone steps. They are principally interesting from the painful remembrance that here a King of England was imprisoned, and by one of these windows he made an ineffectual attempt to escape. Whether the fate of the unfortunate Charles I. would have ultimately been avoided by the accomplishment of his premeditated escape from Carisbrooke Castle, it is now useless to enquire ; but what reader can reflect on his distressing disappointment here, without some emotions of pity ? Sir Richard Worsley states, (and his statement is the more worthy of credit, as one of his own family was prominently concerned in the attempt) that, by a correspondence privately settled with some gentlemen in the Island, it was agreed, that the following plan should be adopted for the escape of Charles. "At the time appointed a Mr. Henry Firebrace, (a person who had previously rendered services to the King, and had come to the Island with the simple intention of assisting him,) was to throw something up against the window of the king's chamber, as a signal that all was clear, on which the king was to come out, and let himself down by a cord provided for that purpose ; being descended, Firebrace, under favor of the darkness, was to conduct him across the court to the

main wall of the Castle, from which he was again to descend into the ditch, by means of another card with a stick fastened across it, serving as a seat, beyond this wall was the counterscarp, which being low, might be easily ascended, near this place Mr. Worsley and Mr. Osborne were to be ready mounted, having a spare horse, with pistols and boots for the king, while Mr. Newland remained at the sea-side with a large boat, ready to have conveyed his majesty wherever he should have thought fit to direct. At the appointed time, when all things were in readiness, and every one instructed in his part, Firebrace gave the expected signal, on which the king attempted to get out of the window, but found when it was too late, that he had been fatally mistaken, for although he found an easy passage for his head, he stuck fast between the breast and shoulders, without the power of advancing or returning; but having the instant before mistrusted something of this nature, he had tied a piece of cord to the bar of the window, by the means of which he might force himself back again. Firebrace heard him groan, without being able to afford him the least assistance; however, the king at length with much difficulty, having released himself from the window, placed a candle in it, as an intimation that his attempt was frustrated." Stones were afterwards thrown by Firebrace at those who were waiting without, as the best means of sending them away, and they understood the signal. Another attempt

was afterwards made, by Charles, to escape by this window; he had even succeeded in eating through the bar by aqua-fortis, but suspicions were excited, and the governor detected the attempt. After this, the rigour of the poor king's confinement was much increased; his servants were all removed, and a decrepid old man, employed to light his fire, was his best companion for several months. Spirit broken, he laid aside every care about his person, and suffered "his hair and beard, grown to an extraordinary length, to hang dishevelled and neglected." After the treaty of Newport, Charles was soon seized by the army and conveyed to Hurst Castle, November 29th 1648.

The *Barracks*, and the *Governor's House* appear in front of the gate, and here is shewn the room in which Elizabeth, Charles's second daughter, died in 1650. It appears that she remained here after the removal of her unfortunate father.

The *Well* is 300 feet deep, and furnishes excellent water, drawn occasionally by an ass. A light lowered, displays the stone lining and its great depth. Water thrown in, is nearly four seconds in falling. This well is supposed to have been sunk by the Romans, who generally made great efforts to obtain water, at whatever depth.

The *Keep* at the north east angle is ascended by seventy three irregular steps, and there are nine more

within it. Here is another well, partly choked up, but supposed to have been originally deeper than the former. The views from the top of the keep well repay the little toil of reaching it : they include Newport, Carisbrooke, Cowes, the Medina, the Solent beyond, Portsdown Hill, the North East Channel of the Island, St. Catherine's Hill, &c. &c. This elevation is apparently artificial.

Mountjoy's Tower, or rather its remains, stand at the south-east angle, and are in many places eighteen feet thick. Here the bee-orchis is often found.

Without the walls of the old castle is an irregular fortification of near a mile in circumference. These works, with the bridge and gateway at the entrance, were erected by Elizabeth. On the arch of the gateway, but overgrown with ivy, is a plate of brass, inscribed "E. R. 1598." In the time of Cromwell this place was garrisoned by his forces.

GATCOMBE

Is a secluded but lovely village. The church has a singular monument, with an oaken image of a knight in armour, which is supposed to represent one of the Lisle family. Gatcombe House, the fine seat of Colonel Campbell is near the Church, and both are exquisitely situated beneath the well wooded slopes which form the back ground.

At Billingham is the seat of the Rev. James Worsley, D. D.

On reaching Chale church, the traveller may leave the carriage, and visit St. Catherine's Hill, or Blackgang Chine, or both ; and return : but, on many accounts, it is preferable to send the carriage forward from Chale, and to proceed on foot by the down, the chine, the Sandrock spring, &c. If the latter plan be adopted, this will be the time to determine whether the driver shall fix his quarters at the Sandrock Hotel, a fine establishment in the midst of romantic scenery, or at the plain inn in the village of Niton, about half a mile from the coast. The ramble to Niton from Chale church may be about two miles, but as it has never been brought under post office regulations, and most visitors are too much engaged with the scenery to compute distances, we will not vouch for the precise accuracy of the calculation.

St. Catherine's Down is the highest land in the Wight, being 750 feet above the level of the sea. It commands fine views of the whole Island, and of much distant scenery. There are two erections on its summit, one of which formed part of the chapel built by Walter de Godyton, in the year 1312 ; the other was erected for a light house, but was rendered useless by its too great elevation, and its consequent exposure to the mists which often obscure the summit of the hill. In the chapel, a chantry priest was employed to say mass, and provide lights for such distressed

seamen as were driven by stress of weather on this dangerous coast. Whatever may be thought of the *utility* of this establishment, it is almost impossible not to admire the apparent benevolence of its *intention*. On the brow of the hill, immediately above the *Hermitage*, a seat of Barlow Hoy, Esq. and erected by the late Michael Hoy Esq., stands a monument designed to commemorate the Emperor of Russia's visit to this country.

Chale Bay, which is advantageously seen on descending the hill towards Blackgang chine, has been unhappily remarkable for the number of vessels lost upon its rocks. So lately as on February 24th, 1830, the Dutch Galliot "Diana Jans," was wrecked here; but it is pleasing to add that the whole crew were saved by the intrepidity of a sailor, (Hendrick Karsies) who swam to the shore with a rope attached to a spar, and thus provided a connexion with the land.

Children are the usual *guides* from Chale, by the rocks, to the Sandrock Spring Cottage. They first conduct to *Blackgang Chine*, certainly not a lovely but yet an interesting object. The etymologists will have it, that the name of this awful chasm is derived from *blac-gange*, a Saxon word which signifies "a black path or way." The lovers of the marvellous prefer to derive it from its *supposed* occupancy in days of yore, by a dreadful gang of pirates.—We leave the parties to arrange this matter; but the

place is certainly a singular one, and the Isle of Wight would not be complete in its variety without it. The principal peculiarity of the scene is a semi-circular cliff of seventy feet high, (based on a rude belt of ferruginous sand-stone,) over which the water trickles in fine weather, and dashes in the rainy seasons; towering masses of sand-stone, threatening, or seeming to threaten the beholder, are elevated above; immense fragments of broken rock are scattered around; the neighbouring scenery is in character; and here are certain echoes which others may hear, while to the speaker they are inaudible.

At a short distance from the chine, proceeding along the shore, the traveller may arrive at "the landslip," a spot in which the formation of the Undercliff is at once explained. Here, in February, 1799, an extensive portion of the cliff yielded to the influence of the land springs, and sunk with a cottage and lands upon it, leaving to the effects of time its complete assimilation to the character of the scenery for the next five miles.

We ascend to the *Chalybeate Spring* at Sandrook, by a path-way which Mr. M'Adam has not yet improved. The comfort is that we can have a *tonic* before we reach the cottage connected with the establishment. Very respectable authority says that this water will, when properly administered under professional direction, afford relief in many of the evils which "our flesh is heir to." It is too powerful to

be taken in any considerable quantity, by a novice in the healing art ; but with the necessary precautions this powerful remedy has been found useful in dyspepsia,—scrofula, when unaccompanied by pulmonary affections, or hectic symptoms, — passive hemorrhages,—chlorosis,—lucorrhœa,—anasarca,—constitutional weakness,—nervous complaints, &c. More minute information on this subject may be obtained from Dr. Lempriere's publication;* it is enough for the conductor to add that, Mr. Waterworth, of Newport, discovered this chalybeate, and after many difficulties succeeded in the necessary arrangements which have obtained this valuable addition to the attractions of the Island. Some pains have been taken to make a road from the beautiful cottage connected with the chalybeate to the Sandrock Spring Hotel ; carriages may now reach the cottage, though a few years ago it was scarcely accessible to the pedestrian.

NITON

Has a very old church, with the basement of an ancient cross in the grave yard. Here is a good parsonage house, and the village is rather adorned by a pretty rill of water which meanders through it. A small Baptist meeting house has been opened here.

*Report on the medicinal effects of an Aluminous Chalybeate Spring lately discovered at Sandrock, in the parish of Chale, in the Isle of Wight, &c.

The ride from Niton along the *Undercliff* is difficult to describe,—principally from the variety of its character, and the numerous points of observation. It has, perhaps, less of the beautiful than Bonchurch, but it more nearly approaches the sublime. The objects cannot easily be grouped, as we have endeavoured to present them from the flagstaff, but the materials are not very dissimilar. A vast perpendicular range of rocks,—scattered fragments of the same materials,—intermingled verdure,—the spacious sea,—with the adorned and unadorned habitations of man, constitute the scenes which here captivate the beholder. It is their wild and romantic *distribution* which creates the charm, but, as we never *could* “paint the rainbow,” we shall not attempt the kindred employment.

At *Puckaster*, a little to the right of Niton, is the residence of James Vine, Esq.; *Beauchamp*, the cottage of Mrs. Bennett, is on the left of the road. A small part of *Orchard Cottage* the property of Sir Willoughby Gordon, is shortly afterwards seen. *Mirables*, the beautiful cottage of Mrs. Arnold is exquisitely situated in the midst of a finely broken spot. *Old Park*, adjoining *Mirables*, has lately been adorned by a fine house, in the gothic style, erected by Thomas Hadden, Esq.

The South Sea Islanders would [now wonder at some of the diminutive churches of our Christian land. That of *St. Lawrence*, to which we proceed, is only

six feet high, twelve feet wide, and twenty feet in length. It stands, however, "on a rock," and if we may judge from the request that its windows may not be broken, it seems to have greatly excited the public curiosity. There are fine views from this spot, and the conductor hopes that *his* readers will rather be content with them, than break the windows of the church. The Right Honourable Lord Yarborough has an elegant marine residence at St. Lawrence, but it cannot be perfectly seen without quitting the road. It has several decorations of an artificial character, comprising a pavilion, a Grecian temple, the celebrated Athenian frieze, an antique bust of Virgil and a battery erected during the war, &c. &c. The natural advantages of this beautiful spot, are very remarkable. These are the grounds on which the attempt was made by the late Sir Richard Worsley, to establish a regular vineyard; but except in favourable autumns it was not successful.

The late Earl Dysart's cottage and grounds at *SteePhill* were once considered the principal ornaments of the Undercliff, and they still present innumerable attractions; but the place is not now without rivals, though in some points it is still, perhaps, unequalled. Its shady walks, and refreshing fountains, with the rock scenery, the cascade, and the undulations of the land, are extremely agreeable. It is now occupied by John Hamborough, Jun. Esq.

The ascent, called *SteePhill Shoot*, affords fine and singular views of the Undercliff, with the rocky

scenery towards Dunnose. The traveller will again pass Appuldurcombe, pursuing the same route as in the last return. It is generally observed that after beholding the scenery already mentioned in this tour, the stranger is commonly glad of a little respite from attentive observation ; and if this were not the case, there are so few portions of the Island which will not pleasantly bear a second inspection, that the guide can hardly apologize for directing to this mode of reaching home. It may however amuse a few moments in the ride to peruse the memorandum left on record by a former proprietor of the principal mansion in the Island. "Appuldurcombe took its name from its situation, for in the old Armoric language *Pul* is a bottom, or a ditch, or a pool ; and *Dur* is water. The Armoric language is yt of ye Brittons in France, and agrees much with the Cornish, and was probably ye language of ye old inhabitants of this Island. Ye Saxons added *Combe* which in their language also signifies a bottom. I thought fit to leave this memorandum to posterity."

Robert Worsley, 1720.

THIRD TOUR.

*Including Freshwater, the Needles Rocks,
Alum bay, &c.*

	MILES.
To Newport.....	5
Carisbrooke Village.....	1
Shorwell.....	2
Brixton.....	2
Mottistone.....	2
Brook Down.....	2
Freshwater Gate.....	4
Light house, on the Needles point	3
Yarmouth.....	5½
Shalfleet.....	4
Albany Barracks.....	5½
Cowes.....	4
	<hr/>
	40
	<hr/>

Two precautions are desirable in making the excursion which we now attempt to describe, its length renders an *early* setting out important, and as the cave at Freshwater gate can only be entered at *low water*, at least from the land, a day should be chosen which will allow of an arrival thither at a suitable time.

We pass through Newport and Carisbrooke, and after observing the striking view of the castle, as we proceed towards Clatterford, wind by the sides and at the foot of the hills to the pretty village of *Shorwell*. Here we pass *Northcourt*, (the seat of Mrs. Bennett,) remarkable for its antiquity, its architectural character, its sylvan ornaments, its dairy with stained glass, its summer houses paved with bones, the bridge of peeled branches which crosses the road at the entrance of the village, and the beautiful mausoleum erected in a retired part of the grounds. In this latter spot, a bereaved father and daughter often met to mourn the loss of a departed young lady, the mourners have themselves since quitted this changing scene. Some interesting inscriptions invite the reader's sympathy, but "when I meet with the grief of parents upon a tomb-stone, my heart melts with compassion; when I see the tomb of the parents themselves, I consider the vanity of grieving for those whom we must quickly follow."* The church here has a stone pulpit, and some very curious ancient monuments.

*Addison.

After passing the farms of Wolverton and Westcourt, we have good views of St. Catherine's with the open sea, and soon reach *Brixton, Brightstone, or Brison*,—so many names has this neat and healthful little village. The Church has a leaden spire, and it is said that the last three clergymen have each lived to hold the benefice for fifty years.

Mottiston is remarkable for a singular stone, erected on a hill which overlooks the village. This relic of antiquity is about twelve feet high, and is said to have as many feet buried in the earth. A smaller stone of similar character lies horizontally, nearly by its side. We heard, on the spot, a tradition more profane, and quite as absurd, as the story of Godshill church. Sir Richard Hoare, in his history of Wiltshire, when writing of Stonehenge, has offered some remarks which may not be inappropriate here. "These stones present the most singular aspect; they stand alone on an extensive plain, [hill] attended only by the sand that supports them, and the vault of heaven which surrounds them; not an inscription to explain, nor an analogy to inform; the men whom you call, the traveller whom you interrogate, gaze at it, and either turn away their head, or recount follies. They recall to our memory those times which neither our calculation nor our history can ever attain."

From *Brook*, there is a pathway leading partly by the edge of the Cliffs to Freshwater Gate, which

presents a number of the chines for which the Island is remarkable. The carriage road is over *Brook* and *Aston Downs*, and the views are so extensive from the high grounds that it is scarcely worth while to lose these for the sake of the walk to which we have alluded. *Aston Down*, 500 feet above the level of the sea, is marked by several tumuli or barrows, and gives a panoramic aspect of nearly the whole Island, with a considerable portion of Hampshire; and even to the shores of Portland.

FRESHWATER GATE.

Is at the foot of the descent, and provided with a convenient inn, the "Albion Hotel." An advertisement announces fifteen curiosities in caves, cliffs, bays, halls, birds' nests, rocks, &c, &c, and if the weather permit, and the stranger be courageous enough to venture, the sail from hence through the Needles to Alum Bay, is very likely to interest. If the sublime be not found here few will deny that a singular character of grandeur characterises the scene. *St Christopher's cliff* is about 615 feet above the level of the sea; and there is one cave of more than 300 feet in depth.

Many of our readers will however be content with what can be seen from the land. *Freshwater cave* is 120 feet deep, arched with terrific masses of the

rugged rock, and paved with the same material and the shingles. The view of the ocean from the cave is singularly impressive, but care should be taken not to enter it when the tide is too near its rude portal.

The *arched rock*, and its weather beaten companion, in Freshwater bay, have been separated from the cliff by the action of the waters. The river Yar nearly reaches the sea at this place, and it formerly approached more closely. A few men might, then, by excavation, have formed another island,—*who* could have re-united the separated lands, when once the sea had made a breach? Here is an establishment of the preventive service, commanded by a Lieutenant of the Royal Navy.

The walk on the downs, to the extremity of St. Christopher's is about three miles; it offers abundant compensation for the toil, in the magnificence of the scenery, but the carriage may be employed by another way to the light house. "Freshwater cliffs excite curiosity on this singular account, that in the summer months they are inhabited by an incredible number of exotic birds, which seem to assemble themselves purely to enjoy the advantage of these warm and glowing rocks to hatch their eggs, and be nurseries for their young. This, however, is the use they make of them, for which purpose their first appearance is generally about the middle of May, and they produce a new generation fit to emigrate by about

the middle of August following, when they take themselves off, and we see no more of them till the next breeding season. They are of two or three different species, as is plain from their beaks and plumage, and, whilst with us, they get their subsistence out of the sea: for this reason their flesh is too rank for human food, but they are not altogether useless: the fisherman is glad of their carcasses for his bait, and the upholsterer will give a good price for their feathers: their eggs which are about the size of those of a duck, are said to be full as good for culinary purposes. The countrymen have a way of taking them, which may deserve to be noted. In the first place a large stake or iron bar is driven into the top of the cliff, to this is fastened a cart rope, or something of like strength, having at the other end of it a stick put cross wise for the adventurer to sit upon; and with this simple apparatus he lets himself down at the front of this horrid precipice; there he attacks his intended prey as it flies in or out of its nest, and secures as much as he can of it. You will hardly suppose that these rude artists need a royal patent to keep the trade to themselves.”*

The *Needles* do not now bear any marked resemblance to the article manufactured at Whitechapel; but there was formerly a pointed rock here, which seems to have originated the name. If the masses in the Undercliff were *really* scattered about by the

* Sturch's View, &c.

giants, who can tell but their dames were employed at home with some such colossal instruments as that which existed here? We should however, pity the young lady who must perform her work, with a needle shaped like the present rocks.

The shores of *Alum Bay* are reached by a descent through the rabbit warren, and are about half a mile from *Groves's* convenient *Boarding House*. They are extremely worthy of a visit. In reaching them we leave the white sand cliffs on the right; the charm of the place is the many-coloured pyramidal cliffs, in contrast with the pearly hue of the chalk rocks, and the wedge-like *Needles*. Here we see perfect loveliness without a leaf! the colors of the tulip transferred to barren sands! When the sun, having passed the meridian, shines upon these sands, after a shower of rain, they are indescribably beautiful.

Farringford Hill, late the seat of J. Hamborough, Jun. Esq. appears on the left as we return. Freshwater Church has some singular epitaphs. *Colwell*, on the northern shore had formerly a barrack.

The borough of *Yarmouth* was once a place of considerable importance, but its ancient consequence is much diminished. The sites of its old streets may still be traced, but they are mostly destitute of buildings. This town still sends two members to parliament. It is in a fine open situation, opposite

Lymington, with which and with Cowes a connection is now establishing by steam packets. Besides the Castle, we need not mention any curiosity here except the fine marble monument of Sir Robert Holmes, which stands in a chapel annexed to the Church. A latin epitaph is appended containing a history of his life, the main points of which were, that he fought *for* and was rewarded *by* his king. There are two inns at Yarmouth, the George and the King's Head.

The river Yar, enters by the western skirts of Yarmouth. On the opposite shore is *Norton*, a pleasant village in which Admiral Sir Graham Hamond, Captain Crozier, Mrs. Mitchell, and Mrs. Hickerson have lovely cottages.

We pass the house of the Rev. Mr. Burrard on quitting the town, and leaving *Thorley** village on the right, proceed to *Shalfleet* which has a large and very ancient church, with a tower of Saxon architecture. There is a rude figure over the door-way on the north side, and other carved work round the tower.

Cowes may be reached from *Shalfleet* via *Newtown*, but the road is indifferent; the driver therefore commonly returns through the *Forest* first to Albany Barracks, and then to "Home, sweet Home."

* On the old road from Yarmouth to Newport, lie the villages of *Thorley*, *Wellow*, and *Calbourne*. *Ningwood*, the seat of J. Pinhorn; *Westover*, the seat of Lady Holmes; and *Swainston*, the seat of Sir Fitzwilliam Barrington, adorn that road. but it is remarkably hilly.

FOURTH TOUR.

Including Brading, the Downs, Ryde, &c.



Cross the Ferry to East Cowes.

	MILES.
To Arreton Down	6
Ashey Down	2
Brading Down	1
Brading	2
Yaverland	1½
Bembridge	3
Cross the Ferry to St. Helens.	
Ryde	5
Wootton Bridge	3
Newport	4
Cowes	5
	<hr/> 32½ <hr/>

After passing the villas and castles at East Cowes, we proceed, by an open way to *Arreton* down, crossing the Newport and Ryde road, at the entrance to Arreton lane. The views from the downs are among the finest of their kind, comprising on the left the woody tract from Cowes to St. Helens, with distant scenery; and on the right the interior and high lands of the Island.

Ashey sea-mark may more safely be disregarded by the traveller on land, than by the seamen in the channel. Hapless is the fate of the poor mariner on the southern coast, if once he approach too near the land to discern this useful monitor. Shipwreck has perils enough even on a friendly coast. The village of *Knighton* lies on the right of *Ashey*. *Knighton* House, the seat of G. M. Bisset, Esq. is partly of very antique character, and has delightful views. There is a good description * of it in "The Dairy-

* The house was a large and venerable mansion. It stood in a beautiful valley, at the foot of a high hill. It was embowered in fine woods, which were interspersed in every direction, with rising, falling, and swelling grounds. The manor-house had evidently descended through a long line of ancestry, from a distant period of time. The gothic character of its original architecture was still preserved in the latticed windows, adorned with carved divisions and pillars of stone-work. Several pointed terminations also, in the construction of the roof, according to the custom of our forefathers, fully corresponded with the general features of the building.

One end of the house was entirely clothed with the thick foliage of an immense ivy, which climbed beyond customary

man's Daughter," but the author has not mentioned the dungeon, thirty feet below the floor of a part of the building. *Newchurch* lies still farther to the right.

On the descent from *Brading* down, the views become remarkably interesting. The grounds of Nunwell, (the ancient seat of the Oglander family,) the town of *Brading*, the harbour, *Bembridge* downs, the sea, with the southern downs and part of the southern cliffs, constitute their principal features.

The town of *Brading*, formerly sent two members to parliament, but was at length excused on the ground of its *poverty*!—(They did not understand things then: "Intellect" so far from having learned to "march," could hardly walk alone.) The Church here is the oldest in the Island, the burial ground is supposed to have been employed for interments before the introduction of Christianity, the first baptisms took place here, skeletons of huge men have been dug up in the neighbourhood, and a variety of antique monuments are to be found in the church. "The Young Cottager" lived and died, in a lane on the left as we enter the town. There are small but decent *Inns* in this place.

limits, and embraced a lofty chimney up to its very summit. Such a tree seemed congenial to the walls that supported it, and conspired with the antique fashion of the place to carry imagination back to the days of our ancestors.

The curious old Church with the manor Farm at Yaverland, Bembridge Down, Culver Cliffs, and Bembridge village, are the only objects inviting to that extension of the ride which renders it desirable to cross the ferry at Bembridge. We copy in the note below* the most popular description of Culver Cliff and its appendages; and leaving, to the convenience or the pleasure of the stranger, the decision whether these objects shall be visited at the expense of crossing the ferry with the carriage, just remark that *Bembridge* is a neat village with a new Church, some elegant villas, and a pleasant little hotel at the entrance of the harbour. Of *Hermit's Hole*, a cave in the Culver cliffs, about thirty feet from the summit, all agree that the danger of visiting it is too great to be compensated by any thing which it can offer; and

* On the left hand of the hill as I advanced eastward, and immediately under its declivity, extended a beautiful tract of land, intersected by a large arm of the sea, which (as the tide was fast flowing in) formed a broad lake or haven of three miles in length. Woods, villages, cottages, and churches, surrounded it in most pleasing variety of prospect. Beyond this lay a large fleet of ships of war, and not far from it another of merchantmen, both safe at anchor, and covering a tract of the sea of several miles long. Beyond this again, I saw the fortifications, dock-yards, and extensive public edifices, of a large sea-port town. The sun shone upon the windows of the buildings and the flags of the ships, with great brightness, and added much to the splendour of the view.

On my right hand, to the south and south-east, the unbounded ocean displayed its mighty waves. It was covered with vessels of every size, sailing in all directions: some outward-bound to the most distant parts of the world: others,

the writer has good authority for saying that the life of the excellent author of "the dairyman's daughter" was once much endangered here. The path is so narrow and so precipitous that you cannot turn, while a rocky precipice of four hundred feet is yawn-

after a long voyage, returning home, laden with the produce of other climes: some going forth in search of the enemy; others sailing back to port after the hard-fought engagement, and bearing the trophies of victory in the prizes which accompanied them home.

At the south-west of the spot on which I was riding, extended a beautiful semi-circular bay of about nine or ten miles in circumference, bounded by high cliffs of white, red, and brown coloured earths. Beyond this lay a range of hills, whose tops are often buried in cloudy mists, but which now appeared clear and distinct. This chain of hills, meeting with another from the north, bounds a large fruitful vale, whose fields, then ripe for harvest, proclaimed the goodness of God in the rich provision which he makes for the sons of men.

As I pursued the meditations which this magnificent and varied scenery excited in my mind, I approached the edge of a tremendous perpendicular cliff, with which the down terminates; I dismounted from my horse, and tied it to a bush. The breaking of the waves against the foot of the cliff at so great a distance beneath me, produced an incessant and pleasing murmur. The sea gulls were flying between the top of the cliff where I stood, and the rocks below, attending upon their nests, built in the holes of the cliff. The whole scene, in every direction, was grand and impressive: it was suitable to devotion.

I cast my eye downwards a little to the left towards a small cove, the shore of which consists of fine hard sand. It is surrounded by fragments of rock, chalk-cliffs, and steep banks of broken earth. Shut out from human intercourse and dwellings, it seemed formed for retirement and contemplation.

The Negro Servant.

ing beneath. The sheep also sometimes take possession of the hole, and as these animals will generally make to the wall, the danger is much increased. It was from meeting one of these creatures that the Rev. Legh Richmond was exposed to so much peril. He had, however, the presence of mind to throw himself on his face, and the sheep leaped over him. It was very interesting to hear the good man speak of this circumstance: he used, in his own way, to tell that the danger and the distress of the poor animal were apparently as great as his own.

At *St. Helens* is the ruin of an old church, which now serves as a sea-mark. The road hence to Ryde is much more interesting than the nearer way from Brading. It skirts the borders of the sea, at a convenient distance from the shore, and is finely studded with the villas of the nobility and gentry; while there is enough of rusticity remaining to give additional graces to the ride. The *Priory*, *Sea View*, *Nettlestone village*, *St. Clare*, *Appley House*, and *St. John's*, are pleasantly passed here.

Ryde presents a rapidly increasing neighbourhood, adorned with numerous villas, and with some good public buildings. The church has been recently rebuilt, and here are episcopal, independent, and methodist chapels. A large market-house and town-hall, are erecting to grace the new town, and the streets have lately been paved. Great efforts have been used, in the erection and enlargement of the pier,

to obviate the natural disadvantages of landing at this place; and, except during the prevalence of some particular winds, they are effectually conquered. The pier also serves as a promenade of 1700 feet in length, and by this means the distance of the sea at low water is partly compensated. The fare for entering or landing at the pier is two-pence each person.

Several good inns offer entertainment for the traveller; and the passage to Portsmouth, by the steam vessel is performed several times in the day. Ryde was formerly called La Rye.

Binstead is nearly two miles from Ryde, at a short distance from the main road to Newport. The beautiful cottage grounds of the Rev. A. Hewitt, are allowed to be inspected on Monday evenings and Friday mornings. J. Fleming, Esq. has also a good cottage near the church. A rude image over the north door into Binstead church, has excited much attention, and is commonly called "the idol."

Quarr Abbey is at the foot of the hill, on descending from Binstead. Several points in the history of this place will be found in the chronological memoranda on our previous pages. We have not mentioned that, after the dissolution of the monasteries, the materials of the building were sold to a person of Southampton, who carried them away. Immense sums were formerly spent in erecting monuments here, but the sepulchres were involved in the general

destruction. Very few relics of the ancient building now remain; the refectory converted into a barn, a few cellars, and slight vestiges of the abbey church, are nearly all that can be recognized. The grounds formerly included about sixty acres; there was a gate to the sea, with the usual defence of a portcullis; and the remains of a small fortification are still perceptible above high-water mark.

Wootton Bridge, a small village, one mile from Quarr, is picturesque when the tide is up. *Kite Hill*, the residence of Mrs. Popham, is on the left as we descend to the bridge. The *Parsonage*, (Rev. R. W. White) is to the right on the ascent. The church, which has an ancient door, lies a little further on the right. *Fern Hill*, erected by Lord Bolton, when governor of the Island, is a singular building with an observatory, it is now occupied by S. Saunders, Esq. The views from the erection are extremely good, and the grounds slope to the water's edge.

The Medina, with its scenery on either side, is finely presented as we descend towards Newport; and here passing Barton's Village as we return after taking these four excursions, we take our leave of the capital, and feel that we have now some reasonable ground to affirm that "we have seen the Isle of Wight."

MARINE EXCURSIONS.

In this healthful department of the stranger's recreations, few places can afford the variety which is presented within a moderate distance of the harbour of Cowes. Neatly fitted pleasure yachts, may be hired by the day, week, or month; safe and commodious boats attend the quays of all the principal inns; and steam packets ply from the neighbouring ports. Referring to the Directory for the proprietors of boats and vessels we just name the principal excursions that are worthy of the stranger's regard.

For *Southampton, Ryde and Portsmouth*, the steam packets leave at half-past ten in the morning, and five in the afternoon. There are also sailing packets for these places, which generally leave at an earlier hour. Information may be obtained on the quays, or at the inns.

For *Yarmouth and Lymington* a steam packet sails, at present thrice a week. The fixed time not yet determined; but information may be obtained as above. There is also a sailing packet for Lymington which receives passengers at Cowes.

For *Newport*, a good boat sails, and returns every day;—the time regulated by the tides. For this trip small boats are often also hired, and the Medina river is finely suited for recreative excursions. Just beyond the ferry the prison ships lay in time of war; the fisherman's hut, Shamblers coppice, Medhurst;

Whippingham church and parsonage, Northwood church, the Folly, the Mills, Dodner, Hurststake, and Fairlee are afterwards passed. The southern downs are finely seen in this sail, and some parts of the shores are very picturesque.

Eaglehurst, the seat of the Earl of Cavan, is about one mile from Calshot castle, and is sometimes visited by boat. The building consists of a lofty tower fronting the sea, with detached offices behind. It contains the curiosities brought by the former Earl from Egypt, after the well remembered contest there.

Netley abbey is often visited from this port. There is a small but interesting publication by Mr. J. Bullar, which is a pleasant "companion to Netley abbey." We only mention that the abbey is said to have been erected in 1239, that it was inhabited by monks of the cistercian order, that the charter confirming its privileges is dated 1251, and that the ecclesiastics, as usual, shewed good taste in the selection of the situation for their buildings. The chapel, transepts, sacristy, chapter house, refectory, kitchen, terrace, and various ruined buildings may still be traced. The arch is finely seen on the passage to Southampton.

Wootton River is very picturesque,—a few of the superfluous rocks from the south would have rendered it more perfect, but even now it is a pattern of

loveliness, at high water. Norris castle, Osborne house, the quay at which King John landed, and Fishbourne village, are passed in this sail. There is a small decent inn at the bridge, where refreshments may be taken. The walks in this neighbourhood are remarkably pretty.

Newtown may be reached by its river, or by land. The quietness of this place, and the scope it affords for reflection on by-gone days, render it a pleasant spot to visit on a summer's eve. There is a good town-hall, and strangers are allowed to take their refreshments within it. The chairs are of considerable antiquity. The difficulty is to find the town itself. This borough, sending two members to parliament, does not even admit the expense of a licence for *spirits* to the only public house in the village. All refreshments, except malt liquor, must therefore be taken. From the traces of the ancient streets, this must once have been a finer town than any now standing in the Island; but it has not at present even a church, though a venerable ruin of such a building is yet standing in the grave-yard. Much of the land here belongs to Sir Fitzwilliam Barrington, whose seat at Swainston has been much admired. The distance by land from Newtown to Cowes is six miles; and those who can encounter the walk, may pleasantly spend a summer's day, going thither by water, and returning on foot through *Lamblease* and by Pallance

lane home. The roads, though narrow, are not, indeed, so bad but that this vestige of a town may be reached by the carriage, and in that case the return may be by Carisbrooke and its Castle.

Beaulieu River, celebrated for the picturesque, leads to the village from which it is named. There are the ruins of an abbey founded by King John, and well known by historians as the refuge of Margaret of Anjou and her son. Perkin Warbeck also took temporary shelter here. The manor is not less than eighteen miles in circumference.

The *Plymouth*, *Havre de Grace*, and *Guernsey* steam packets, pass near the Island from Southampton and Portsmouth. They present an interesting appearance when gliding by our shores on a summer's evening, and they occasionally take passengers from this port.

The *tour of the Island* by water, may suitably conclude the subjects mentioned by the guide. Steam packets occasionally leave Cowes for this excursion, and their sailing is announced by placard, and by the crier. Sailing vessels may be hired for the same excursion, and when the wind permits, this is sometimes preferred. If the passage be taken eastward, the following will be the order of the scenery on the shores: Old Castle Point, Norris Castle, Osborne House, King's Quay, Wootton River, Quarr, Binstead, Ryde, Appley, St. Clare, Puckpool, Nettlestone, Sea View, Sea Grove, Priory, Brading Harbour, Bem-

bridge, Culver Cliffs, Sandown Bay, Shanklin, Luccombe, Dunnose, East End, Bonchurch, Ventnor, Steephill, St. Lawrence, Rocken End, Sand Rock, Blackgang Chine and St. Catherine's, Chale, Atherfield Rocks, Brixton, Mottistone, Brooke, Afton Down, Freshwater Gate and Cliffs, the Needles, Alum Bay, Totland Bay, Colwell Bay, Hurst Castle and Light House, Yarmouth, (opposite which is Lymington,) Newtown, Thorness Bay, Gurnard's Bay, Wood Vale, Egypt, and Cowes.



HIRE OF VESSELS.

CHARGES to be made for hire of vessels, freight of carriages, horses, &c, determined by the justices of the county of Hants, agreeably to act of parliament.

To and from Cowes and Southampton; to and from Cowes and Portsmouth; to and from Cowes and Gosport; and to and from Newport to Southampton, Portsmouth and Gosport.

£ s. d.

For a vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage, two horses, and luggage, (horse boat and other boatage included,) with or without a family; horses above two to be paid for extra at 3s. 6d. each 1 9 0

A vessel with or without a family, with baggage and three horses 1 2 0

A vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage and luggage, without horses, and either with or without a family 1 4 0

A vessel to carry a two-wheel carriage with or without a family, and luggage: horses to be paid for extra at 3s. 6d. each 0 19 0

China & Glass Dealers.

Hewitt, J. & G. high street
 Moore, James ditto
 Morgan, Morris ditto

Chemist and Druggist.

Manning, T. D. high street

Fire Office Agents.

British, Moody and Dear
 Guardian, W. S. Day
 Hants and Dorset, J. Hart
 Norwich Union, T.D. Manning

Fishmongers.

Blake, Anne high street
 Hooper, T. ditto

Grocers.

Barter, Benjamin high street
 Blacker, John sun hill
 Corke, M. south parade
 Drover, Ann high street
 Freemantle, James sun hill
 Fatcher, J. high street
 Godsell, James ditto
 Grantham, George ditto
 Hewitt, T. J. ditto
 Lutte, Joseph ditto
 May, Thomas ditto
 Moody and Dear, ditto
 Morgan, Morris ditto
 White, Henry ditto

**Green Grocers & Fruit-
erers.**

Jacobs
 Lutte, Joseph
 Moore, James
 Maynard
 Mosher, M.
 Russell, John
 Tomlin, J.

Hatter.

Cotton, Robert

Ironmongers.

Symonds, John
 White, E.

**Musical Instruments let
on Hire.**

Hewitt, T. and J.
 Hillyer, William
 Moir, Robert

Linen Drapers.

Ayrton, Robert high street
 Francis, F. D. ditto
 Harwood, Daniel ditto
 Puttick, John ditto
 Woodyear, George ditto

Librarians.

Moir, Robert
 Pinhorn, James

**Milliners and Dress
Makers.**

Deacon, Miss high street
 Hillyer, Mrs. high street
 May, Mrs. ditto
 Ratsey, Miss sun hill

**Painters, Plumbers, and
Glaziers.**

Civil, William
 Cottle, William
 Cottle, John
 Tayler, John Adkins
 Watts, Edward

**Perfumers and Hair
Dressers.**

Jobling, Robert high street,
 Sibley, Thomas ditto

Rope Makers.

Biles, John
 Bannester
 Gerrans and Squibb

Sail Makers.

Blandford, John
 Ratsey, George
 Ratsey, Restell
 Summers, William
 Spain, George

Schools.*Marked thus * receive Boarders*

Atkey, Misses

Bailey, Miss

Donaldson, Miss *

Dore, Miss

Furner, Ed. * (private teach.)

Jolliffe, Henry (ditto)

Roberts, Miss

Tyler, J. B. * (private teach.)

Dealers in Shells, Fossils,**Toys and Curiosities.**

Dore, John

Moir, Robert

Osborne, Thomas

Pinhorn, Charles

Pinhorn, James

Yoel, Samuel

Tailors.

Dixon, John high street

Gladwin, J. ditto

Harris, Edward Senr. ditto

Harris, Edward Jun. ditto

Hillyer, William ditto

White, Zachariah, ditto

Inns & Publick Houses.*Marked thus * are Hotels.*

Anchor, James Mursell

Bell, Thomas Fry

Bolton Yacht, J. Lutter

Dolphin, F. Clarke

Grapes, I. K. Ward

Red Lion, D. Corke

George, G. Woolgar

George the Fourth, P. White

Shipwright's Arms, C. Miller

Sloop, W. Potter

Star, W. Bannester

Three Crowns, J. P. Raynes

Union, R. Lock

Horse and Groom, J. Keets

Fountain, J. Webb*

Vine, T. Hale*

Marine Hotel, T. Helmore*

Wine and Spirit**Merchants.**

Eames & Son, spirit merch.

Stringer, J. wine merchant.

Ward, J. K. wine & spi. mer.

**Watch & Clock Makers
and Jewellers.**

Moir, Robert

Swift, Richard

Yoel, Samuel

List of Boatmen.

Abbot, William

Abraham, William

Cork, Jonathan

Clark, John, Sen.

Clark, John, Jun.

Clark, Francis

Clark, Joseph

Cork, William

Davis, William

Davis, John

Fry, William

Lutter, Joseph

Maynard, Michael

Tomlin, James

Woodford, Robert

Witticomb, William

The above named have Pleasure Boats for Hire, by the day or hour.

Vessels for Hire.

Amelia, C. Cork

Sons of Commerce, E. Stephens

Phoenix, John Clark

Fox, John Stephens

Duke of Gloucester, T. Clark

Vessels to London.

William IV. John Jacobs

Queen Adelaide, J. Stallard

Princess Victoria, J. W. Mills

These sail alternately every fortnight, receiving Office in London, Galley Quay, Thames Street.

**Yacht, Ship, and Boat
Builders.**

Hansen, George

Miller, Charles

Ratsey, Linn

Ratsey, Michael

Robertson, East Cowes

White, Thomas

White, Joseph, East Cowes

CARRIAGES.

Stage Coaches to Newport, from the Fountain and Vine Inns, morning and afternoon. Their time of departure, regulated by the arrival of the packets. These return from the Bugle and the Dragon Inns at Newport, at 8 in the morning, half-past two in the afternoon and 7 in the evening. Carriers to all parts of the Island, daily.

Post Chaises and Sociables.

The Fountain Inn
The Vine Inn
The Marine Hotel

Cars.

Derrick, J. Sun Hill
Edney, E Cowes
Moore, James
Murnell, J. Anchor Inn
Raynes, J. P. Three Crowns
Webb, J. Fountain Inn
Woolgar, G. George Inn

Wine and Spirit Merchants.

Eames & Son, spirit merch.
Stringer, J. wine merchant.
Ward, I. K. wine & spr. mer.

Gigs and Pony Chaises.

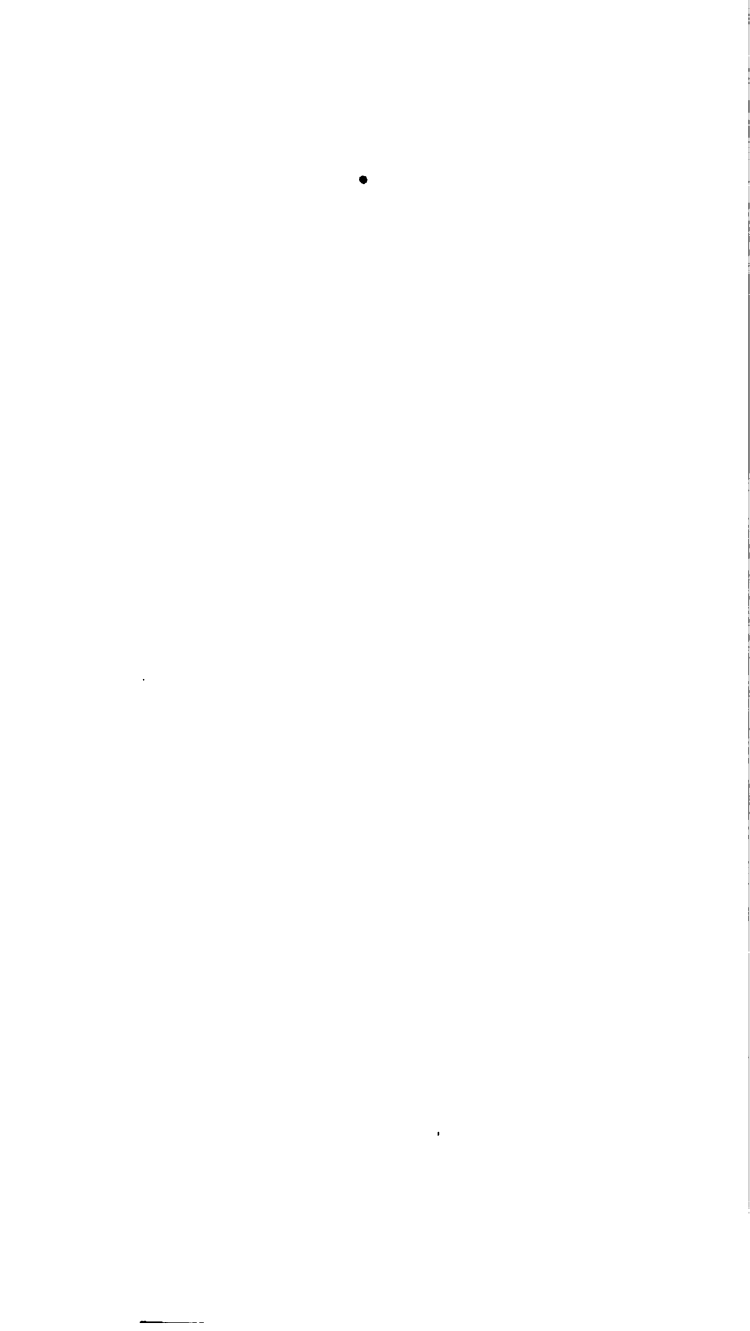
Edney, East Cowes
Hale, Vine
Hunt, East Cowes
Jolliffe, East Cowes
Jolliffe, West Cowes
Loader, Henry Baker
Lock, Union Inn
Moir, Robert Library
Mursell, Anchor Inn
Pinnock, E Cowes
Webb, James Fountain Inn

Sedan Chair.

I. P. Raynes

As no person's name has been intentionally left out, if omission should be discovered the Publisher will be obliged by a communication from the parties.









JUL 2 - 1930

